3

ADDITIONAL FACTS

AND

OBSERVATIONS

RELATIVE TO THE

NATURE AND ORIGIN

OF THE

Pestilential Fever.

BY THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF
PHILADELPHIA.

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ADDITIONAL FACTS, &c.

ON the re-appearance of the peſtilential fever in this city in 1793, after an interval of more than thirty years, we were ſtruck with its mortality and contagious nature, as well as with the train of ſymptoms, ſo widely different from any thing we had been accuſtomed to. Theſe conſiderations naturally produced a ſuppoſition of its foreign origin; and in the courſe of our inquiries on the ſubject, we were led to make the following concluſion, in reply to the requiſition of the governor of the commonwealth on the origin of the diſeaſe.

" No inſtance has ever occurred, of the diſeaſe " called the Yellow Fever, being generated in this " city, or in any other part of this ſtate, as far as we

 know;

" know; but there have been frequent inſtances of
" its having been imported, not only into this, but
" into other parts of North America, and pre-
" vailing there for a certain period of time; and
" from the riſe, progreſs and nature of the malignant
" fever, which began to prevail here about the be-
" ginning of laſt Auguſt, and extended itſelf gradu-
" ally over a great part of the city, we are of opi-
" nion, that this diſeaſe was imported into Philadel-
" phia by ſome of the veſſels which arrived in the
" port after the middle of July. This opinion we
" are further confirmed in by the various accounts
" we have received from the beſt authorities we
" could procure on the ſubject."

Subſequent events and reſearches have confirmed theſe opinions; and in 1798, when the facility of producing ſufficient proofs was abundant, we publiſhed an account of the nature and origin of the peſtilential fever, accompanied with ſuch facts to prove its introduction to this city from the Weſt Indies, as to us appeared incontrovertible. The mode of introduction and of the ſpreading of this diſeaſe, beginning as from a point, and gradually extending itſelf more or leſs throughout the city, as well as the daily inſtances of its communication which occurred, had alſo, as we ſuppoſed, afforded evi-

dence,

dence, ſufficiently convictive, of its contagious nature.

In order, however, to throw more light on the ſubject, we conceive it may be uſeful to publiſh the opinions and obſervations of ſeveral reſpectable characters, phyſicians and others, concerning the ſentiments long ſince prevalent in this country, as well as ſome intereſting facts, which had come to their knowledge reſpecting the foreign origin of the diſeaſe.

The importation and contagious nature of this Fever appear to be ſo cloſely connected, that in addition to what has been repeatedly publiſhed on this head, we have ſelected a few caſes, which we ſuppoſe muſt very clearly prove the contagion of the peſtilential fever, more particularly during the months of July, Auguſt, September, and October.

A deſire to be uſeful to our country by calling the public attention to theſe important points, ſo as to prevent any relaxation in quarantine laws, as well as to diſſeminate truth generally for the good of others, has been our motive for making a further publication at this time; for we think there is too much reaſon to fear that the partial exemption from theſe diſeaſes, of latter years, may have a tendency to produce a dangerous ſecurity amongſt us.

Letter

Letter from James Pemberton, Esq. to Doctor Caspar Wistar, junr.

Esteemed Friend,

Being desirous to aid thy investigation of the origin, progress, &c. of the disease which now again afflicts the inhabitants of this city, I hope my recollection of facts and opinions, may contribute to assist thy endeavours to obviate the impressions which the speculation of some late writers on the subject may have occasioned; tending to degrade the salubrity of our climate, both at home, and in foreign parts; the injurious effects of which are too obvious to enumerate.

Since thy inquiries on this subject, I have been led to recollect what I have heard and known, of the several periods of time wherein a similar, if not the same kind of fever, has, through the permission of Divine Providence, pervaded our city.

I recollect to have heard my father often rehearse what he knew himself of the introduction of the distemper;* that it was imported in a ship (or other sea vessel) from the island of Barbadoes, whose cargo consisted partly of cotton in bags, which were landed

* In 1699.

ed at a wharf between Market-ſtreet and the draw-bridge, and there ſtored for ſale. He mentioned alſo the name of the owner or conſignee, (which is loſt to my memory). The diſorder, however, made its firſt appearance in his family, and the neighbourhood, and thence gradually ſpread through the city, attended with great mortality; fully equal, or exceeding any that has occurred in the ſame ſpace of time, comparing the then infant ſtate of the city, with its population in 1793, or ſince that period. During this calamity my father was about 15 years of age, and apprentice with Samuel Carpenter, one of the principal traders of that day; he was well capable of making his remarks on occurrences, and afterwards of remembering them, and knew it to be the invariable judgment of the phyſicians, and other citizens, that the diſeaſe was introduced among them in the manner related above, attributing it to no other viſible cauſe.

From the time of this calamity until after the year 1740, I do not recollect to have read any account, or heard any talk of an epidemic fever prevailing in our city, and my memory recurs as far back as to ſome tranſactions in the years 1728 and 1729, though not very material; but I well remember the prevalence of the ſmall-pox in the years 1730 and 1731, with great virulence, and that about 1733 inoculation

inoculation was introduced, which I think Dr. Chew was earneſt to promote, and that it occaſioned much converſation, and great oppoſition.

In the year 1739, a military expedition, which proved unſucceſsful, was promoted by Great Britain againſt ſome of the Spaniſh Weſt-India poſſeſſions, particularly *Carthagena;* for which troops were raiſed in Pennſylvania, and a communication, before utterly reſtrained, was opened with our city: and on return of the ſhips and people employed in that buſineſs, a new ſpecies of fever was introduced, but not ſo prevalent as to occaſion much alarm, nor was the city in that manner remarkably affected until the year 1744, when a diſeaſe appeared with unuſual ſymptoms, and proved mortal to a conſiderable number of its inhabitants, of whom divers were reſpectable characters, and was diſtinguiſhed by the name of *Yellow Fever*, and known to be imported from ſome of the Weſt-India iſlands.

In the autumn of 1747 a malignant fever was introduced, and generally believed to be by the means above mentioned, which, although it was moſtly confined within the limits of the ſouthern parts of the city, below the draw-bridge, and at lodging houſes for ſailors, and in the neighbourhood of the dock,

dock, which was then uncovered, ſome reſpectable citizens were ſeized and carried off by it, of which number was Samuel Powel, an eminent merchant, who resided in that part.

A ſimilar fever viſited us in the year 1760, which was not long in duration, nor extenſive in its progreſs; but in 1762 the ſame kind of diſeaſe again appeared, with a greater degree of malignity, attended with ſuch ſymptoms as proved ſuperior to the ſkill of our moſt experienced phyſicians; which excited the particular attention and ſolicitude of my neighbour, Dr. Thomas Bond, to obtain the beſt information he could of the nature, origin and progreſs of the diſeaſe of 1699, by inquiries of the moſt ancient inhabitants; in which he ſo far ſucceeded to his ſatisfaction, as to commit his intelligence to writing, with a view to form a narrative thereof, including the obſervations that had occurred in the courſe of his own practice, on the ſeveral malignant diſorders attending this city ſince that period.

Having had the opportunity of knowing the ſtate of our city in reſpect to the prevailing diſeaſes from the year 1740, I am confirmed in my opinion, that the malignant and infectious fevers afflicting the inhabitants at various times, have been introduced from

from foreign parts, and that this was the invariable judgment of my fellow citizens, phyſicians and others, which I never heard called in queſtion until ſince the year 1793, when a contrary doctrine was advanced, which I think is as difficult to ſupport by facts, as that the plague which diſtreſſed the citizens of London in the year 1665 was a native of the Britiſh climate; or that the fever which raged among the ſoldiery compoſing the flying camp, as it was called, in 1776 and 1777, and carried off near three thouſand of them after their return to this city, without infecting the inhabitants, originated within its boundaries.

If theſe curſory hints avail in any reſpect to promote thy views, they will anſwer my intention of conveying them to thy inſpection.

I am thy reſpectful friend,

JAMES PEMBERTON.

12*th*, 10*mo*. 1802.

Letter from Thomas Willing, Esq. to Doctor Samuel P. Griffitts.

On my return from England in May 1749, I often heard converſation on the ſubject of the Yellow Fever

Fever which had prevailed in 1747, near the draw-bridge, ſo called at that time, in Front-ſtreet. My father and mother often lamented the death of their particular friend, Thomas Hatton, biſcuit-baker, who had lived in Front-ſtreet, very near the bridge.

They told me that the fever had been brought from Barbadoes, in the following manner.

Mr. S. Powel who lived on the eaſt ſide of Plum or Water-ſtreet, being part of his wharf eſtate, had ſent a young man as his ſupercargo to Barbadoes, where he died of the Yellow Fever.—that his clothing and bedding had been put in a cheſt, and ſent back many months afterwards, at the requeſt of the lad's friends, who lived at North Wales—that the young man's father, mother and aunt came to Mr. Powel's for the cheſt one day, whilſt Mr. Hatton was drinking a glaſs of wine with Mr. Powel; who calling his cooper to come and open the cheſt, that the parties might ſee what it contained, aſked Mr. Hatton to go over the alley with him to the ſtore where the cheſt lay—that the cheſt was opened and the articles looked over, in the preſence of Mr. Powel, Mr. Hatton, the three perſons from North Wales, the cooper and a boy of Mr. Powel's; who all of them ſickened and died of

a Yellow Fever, within a few days—that Andrew Hamilton, brother of our late Governor Hamilton, with about forty others of thoſe in the neighbourhood of the bridge, had died of the ſame fever, which was confined in its ravages to that part of the city—I think altogether—at leaſt I do not recollect to have heard otherwiſe.

THOMAS WILLING.

Philadelphia, July 21ſt. 1802.

In 1762 a ſhip from the Weſt Indies came to the Sugar-houſe wharf, below South-ſtreet; three men were landed from her, and died of a contagious fever in the neighbourhood, where about ſixty others alſo died of the ſame fever, as it was believed at the time.

T. W.

SIR,

The foregoing is the memorandum which you aſked me this morning to make out for you. I have alſo mentioned the occurrence of malignant fever in Philadelphia, at ſuch other periods as my memory enables me to recollect.

I am, Sir,

Your very reſpectful friend,

THOMAS WILLING.

Dr. Samuel Griffitts, Front-ſtreet.

Letter

Letter from Benjamin Chew, Esq. to Dr. Wistar.

Dear Sir,

All that I can say with certainty respecting the prevalence of the Yellow Fever in this city will be comprized within a narrow compass. I am a native of the present state of Maryland, and removed with my parents to this city when I was between eight and nine years of age.

About the year 1737 I removed into a neighbouring state with my father and his family, and did not take up my permanent residence again in this city until the year 1754. The intermediate time was spent partly in another state, and partly in England, whither I went to finish my studies in the profession of the law. After my return to America, in the year 1747, business calling me to Philadelphia, I found the inhabitants greatly alarmed by a contagious disorder which raged there, called the Yellow Fever; which was the first knowledge I had of any such disease. It had then been fatal to many persons, particularly to Andrew Hamilton, Samuel Powel, jun. Thomas Hatton, and others.

The

The ſubject then engroſſing the converſation in all companies, I well remember it was the univerſal opinion, that the diſeaſe was imported in a veſſel from ſome part of the Weſt Indies, and was communicated by the clothing contained in the cheſt of a perſon who died of the diſeaſe in the Weſt Indies, and that the perſon or perſons who were preſent at the opening of the ſaid cheſt, were the firſt who were taken with the Yellow Fever; and to ſome or all of them it had proved fatal. I alſo perfectly remember, that Doctor Thomas Bond and Phineas Bond, Dr. Graham and Dr. Cadwalader, with whom I was particularly acquainted, were all of them of opinion, that it was imported in the manner above ſtated: and until the year 1793, I do not recollect to have ever heard it doubted, whether the Yellow Fever, at the different times it had heretofore made its appearance in this city, was imported, or had originated here.

I am Sir, with great reſpect,

Your very humble ſervant,

BENJAMIN CHEW.

Philadelphia,
February 11th, 1805.

DR. WISTAR.

Communication

Communication from Dr. Charlton, Preſident of the Medical Society of the state of New York, to Dr. David Hoſack.

New York, September 9th, 1803.

Dear Sir,

In anſwer to your queries: I have practiced phyſic in this city ſince the year 1762. The fevers that have uſually occurred in ſummer and autumn, during that period, were intermittent, bilious remittent, and ſlow nervous; of late denominated typhus fevers.

I never ſaw a caſe of Yellow Fever, in the courſe of my practice, before the year 1793 I reſided on Long-Iſland five years of the war, during which time, I never heard from my medical friends in the city, of any caſe of Yellow Fever having occurred; nor after my return to it in 1781, did I ever meet with any inſtance of it (before the period above-mentioned) although the city was, during the war, more crowded, and far more filthy than ever it was at any other time.

I have always conſidered the Yellow Fever as a ſpecies of diſeaſe not indigenous to our climate, but

of

of imported origin with us: and here it may be neceſſary to remark, that in the year 1795, in conſequence of an application from the mayor of the city to the medical ſociety of the ſtate of New York, of which I had the honour of being preſident, a committee of that body were directed to conſider of, and report upon the nature and origin of that fever, which prevailed at the time. The report of the committee was in favour of its domeſtic origin, and was adopted by the ſociety; and in my official capacity, I affixed my ſignature to it, though contrary to my own opinion.

Among the diſtinguiſhing characteriſtics of this diſeaſe, I conſider the total abſence of remiſſion for the firſt two or three days, after which it frequently happens that there will be a regular, ſlow pulſe, apparently free from febrile action, inſomuch that the inexperienced are flattered with a proſpect of the favourable termination of the diſeaſe, while the inſidious foe is ſecretly undermining the fabric, as a few hours fatally evince, by an aggravation of all the ſymptoms. Another mark of diſtinction, is the duſky hue the ſurface acquires, inſtead of the bright orange colour it has in the bilious remittent: the appearance of the tongue and fauces, which are frequently (comparatively) clean to the laſt, is a peculiarity of this ſpecies of fever. I alſo think that

delirium

delirium does not ſupervene ſo early, as in the jail, hoſpital, or ſhip-fever.*

I never met with a caſe of Yellow Fever in the country, but which could be clearly traced to have been derived by infection from the city.

I am, with great regard,

Yours, &c.

JOHN CHARLTON.

Dr. D. Hoſack.

Communication from Doctor Samuel Bard, to Doctor David Hoſack.

In anſwer to your inquiries: I began to practice medicine in New York, in the year 1766.—Remitting fevers have ſince that time prevailed more or leſs every fall. They frequently were attended with bilious diſcharges, and a yellow ſkin, and in proportion as theſe ſymptoms prevailed, were termed bilious remittents; in ſome inſtances theſe ſymptoms have run very high, and the accompanying fever in ſuch caſes has generally been more ardent and conſtant; but nevertheleſs

* I also consider the black vomit as a symptom peculiar to this disease, having never met with it in any other. — this is not true
great medical Systems or observations and
black vomit it common in Hypochondriacal

theleſs ſenſible remiſſions ſo generally accompanied them, that they were always looked for; and it is now thought the duty of the phyſician to watch for them, and by emetics, other evacuations, and bliſters to promote them, ſo as to procure an opportunity to adminiſter the Peruvian bark, by which the cure was generally completed.—Now and then, and particularly during the war, when the city was much crowded, and little attention was paid to cleanlineſs; fevers of a more malignant nature have prevailed, in which a foul mouth, hæmorrhages, petechial eruptions, and other marks of diſſolution have either characteriſed the diſeaſe from its commencement, or been ſuperadded to the bilious ſymptoms in the latter ſtages; and then the diſeaſe has been termed malignant, putrid petechial, jail or hoſpital fever. In ſuch caſes I have now and then ſeen profuſe bloody diſcharges and black, or as it is now more generally named, coffee-ground vomiting;* but a more frequent ſymptom in theſe fevers, and one I do not remember to have ſeen in Yellow Fever, is the aphthous cruſt with which the mouth and throat is often lined.—In theſe fevers death ſeldom occurs, nor is a criſis often to be expected before the ſeventh day, and both are frequently protracted to

* Is this of the same nature with the black vomiting of Yellow Fever? I suspect not. — it is — if not the 2d
the 3 species of black vomit, the above, the 2nd the
Yellow Fever & the 3d that of Hypochondriasis

to the fourteenth or even to the twentieth—ſuch were the caſes of my ſiſter during the war, and of my ſon about ſix years ago, which you have frequently heard me mention. Juſt before, and what gave occaſion to the appointment of the health-officer of New York, about the year 1758 or '59, a ſhip crowded with Germans arrived there in a very ſickly ſtate, and were put under my father's care. He procured accommodations for the ſick at a little diſtance from town; and I have heard him ſay, that out of five or ſix pupils and attendants, he was the only perſon who eſcaped the diſeaſe—this diſeaſe he always called ſhip or jail fever, but never Yellow Fever, and it is worthy of obſervation that he had ſeen the Yellow Fever which prevailed in New York about the year 1744. Another inſtance of the ſame nature occurred whilſt I was health-officer, I mean the ſhip in which Mr. M'Clain came from Scotland; in which out of I think about three hundred paſſengers, upwards of ſeventy died; but of thoſe I ſaw, no one caſe which in the leaſt reſembled Yellow Fever.

The firſt caſe of fever I ever ſaw with that aſſemblage of ſymptoms we have ſince denominated Yellow Fever, was the caſe of Mr. Jenkins.* To this I was called in conſultation with my father—I found

D Mr.

* In the year 1795.

Mr. Jenkins perfectly in his senses, walking about his chamber, and alternately sitting on his bed, with an handkerchief in his hand, continually wiping the blood which oozed from his mouth and gums, and with a very yellow skin. But what struck me most forcibly was the slowness and regularity of his pulse; insomuch that upon retiring to another room, I remarked, that notwithstanding the other threatening symptoms, I could not help entertaining the most confident expectation of his recovery: my father, however, immediately checked my hopes by informing me, that this was a case of the *Yellow Fever of the West Indies*, that he considered the patient in the most imminent danger, and indeed had little or no hopes of his recovery. You know the event, and how soon we were convinced of the correctness of his judgment, both as to the fate of poor Jenkins, and the nature of his complaint.

Since this we have too frequently had to lament the occurrence of Yellow Fever, which all the experience I have had, has still tended to convince me is a disease I never saw before that case of Mr. Jenkins.

The rapid course of this fever, terminating in death sometimes so early as the second, frequently on the third and fourth, and seldom protracted to the

the ſeventh day; the violence and unremitting nature of the ſymptoms; the diſcoloration of the ſkin, which is frequently livid rather than yellow; the hæmorrhages, black vomiting, and above all the ceſſation of fever, with the regularly ſlow pulſe, which generally precede death, do in my opinion diſtinguiſh it from all others.

You will perceive that I conſider this fever as a diſtinct idiopathic diſeaſe, and not a variety or grade of any other—I likewiſe believe it to be a ſtranger and not a native of our country, and from the beſt information I have been able to obtain, in every inſtance of acceſſion imported from abroad.

I am, &c.

S. BARD.

December 17th, 1803.

DOCTOR D. HOSACK.

Extracts from Dr. John Redman's Letter to the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, on the Yellow Fever of 1762. *Read September 7th*, 1793.

My memory being much impaired by age and infirmities, I have endeavoured to aſſiſt my recollection reſpecting the Yellow Fever, which raged amongſt us chiefly in the ſouthern part of the city in 1762, by recurring to my day-book, in Auguſt, September, and October of that year, and by making inquiries

quiries of ſome perſons whom I remembered to have attended at that time under particular circumſtances.

By the aforeſaid retroſpection, I find I muſt have had one patient as early as the 20th of Auguſt—whoſe caſe I treated at firſt as a remittent, from the circumſtance of his living above a mile from the city, to the ſouthward, near low and wet grounds; though he ſometimes came to town and tranſacted buſineſs near the place where the Yellow Fever had then juſt began to appear, and I had not then ſeen any of them. I had another patient on the 28th of Auguſt—from thence to September 1ſt, four or five—from that time they daily increaſed, ſo that from the 20th to the 25th of September, (when the diſeaſe appears to have been at its height,) I attended daily 18 or 20 patients; though other phyſicians had more; and I believe Dr. Bond and others had patients in it about a week before me: from the 27th the diſeaſe appears to have declined, ſo that by the 20th of October I had but two or three freſh patients in it, and thoſe I believe only ſuch perſons as had lately come to lodge or live in that part of the town; after this time I had a few more ſcattered patients; and alſo two in the firſt week of November, but none afterwards.

The

The fever aforeſaid was moſtly circumſcribed between Pine-ſtreet northerly, and three or four ſquares from thence ſoutherly, and extended from Front or Water-ſtreet to Third or Fourth ſtreets weſtward: very few had it above Walnut-ſtreet. Its firſt and greateſt ravages were about the New Market, and the ſquare to the eaſtward of it; in which, after ſome conſiderable ſearch and tracing it, it was found to have originated in a number of ſmall back tenements forming a kind of court, the entrance to which was by two narrow alleys from Front and Pine-ſtreets, and where ſailors often had their lodgings; to which a ſick ſailor from on board a veſſel from the Havannah, where it then raged, was brought privately after night, before the veſſel had come up to town, to the houſe of one Leadbetter, where he ſoon died, and was ſecretly buried. And I believe Leadbetter, with moſt of his family and many others in that court, ſoon after fell a ſacrifice to the diſtemper; and from thence it ſpread rapidly, firſt affecting the houſes neareſt adjoining in Front and Pine-ſtreets.

In this diſeaſe, a bowl of vinegar was kept in the chamber of the ſick, with an hot iron ſometimes put therein, which ſerved for the benefit of the patient, the phyſician and the attendants, and indeed was uſeful for dipping the hand therein, and rubbing one's

one's face before approaching the bed and feeling the pulſe. This was the chief preventive or preſervative I uſed, beſides great temperance, avoiding to viſit patients faſting, if poſſible, and keeping tobacco in my mouth while in the ſick room; not from any expectation of benefit from any quality in the tobacco, except that of preventing my ſwallowing my ſaliva. This method I found better than a conſtant uſe of preſervatives; which after a little time, I perceived to affect my mind with ſuch fears as I thought were likely to render me more ſuſceptible of infection than the omiſſion of them: and ſo diſcarded them and went fearleſs, though not thoughtleſs, wherever called; and I thank God have been preſerved harmleſs from ſuch ills to this day.

Communication from Dr. Joſeph Bayley, to Dr. David Hoſack.

Sir,

The queries which you were pleaſed to addreſs to me require an apology for not attending to them ſooner. A change in my ſituation in life, prompted me to ſet apart, at this ſeaſon of leiſure, a little time to viſit my friends in the country.

I have

I have anſwered the queſtions very briefly, but the ſame candidly.

I have the honour to be,
Your moſt obedient, and
Very humble ſervant.
JOSEPH BAYLEY.

January, 1804.

1ſt. Quere. Do you conſider it (the Yellow Fever) as differing from typhus fever, and bilious remitting fever, and in what does it differ from thoſe fevers?

A. It differs from typhus in the rapidity of its progreſs through its different ſtages, and the irritability of the ſtomach. Bilious remitting fever is a milder diſeaſe of longer duration; the yellowneſs of the body is an invariable attendant, and comes on at the beginning; but that diſcoloration of the ſkin which frequently accompanies Yellow Fever comes on later, and is of a duſky yellow or orange colour, readily diſtinguiſhed from the yellowneſs of bilious fever; the matter vomited in bilious fever, is always bilious, from a bright yellow to a dark green.

2d. Q. Have you ever ſeen the Yellow Fever on board of veſſels arriving from our ſouthern ſtates, or what are the ſymptoms which are uſually met with in the fevers on board thoſe veſſels?

A.

A. When the Yellow Fever rages in any of thoſe ſtates, perſons ill with this diſeaſe arrive in veſſels. But this is not the caſe when the Yellow Fever is not epidemic ; but bilious remitting fever and intermitting fever are the uſual diſeaſes received at the Marine hoſpital from coaſting veſſels, in the months of July, Auguſt, September, and October.

3d. Q. Have you ever ſeen a fever with black vomit, orange-coloured ſkin, and terminating fatally within ſeven days, on board the Iriſh ſhips crowded with paſſengers? is a fever of this ſort frequently met with? or does it uſually aſſume the characters of the typhus fever, i. e. jail or hoſpital fever ariſing from confined human effluvia?

A. Among the greater number of ſick Iriſh emigrants that arrived here in the year 1801, I have ſeen four caſes of fever, that terminated in black vomit (of the colour of very weak coffee, with black mucous particles floating in it) on the ſeventh or eighth day of the diſeaſe. Their eyes were inflamed and protruded ; the ſkin began to change after the third or fourth day, and before death was univerſally of an orange colour; but there was not that naufea and vomiting at the beginning as in Yellow Fever.

4th. Q. Is the common typhus fever frequently obſerved in veſſels from the Weſt Indies, or from our ſouthern ſtates?

A.

A. I have ſeen typhus fever in veſſels that have had long paſſages from the Weſt Indies, likewiſe from the Eaſt Indies, but never from the ſouthern ſtates.

5. Q. Have you ever ſeen the common autumnal remittent as obſerved in this country on board of the Weſt India or Iriſh veſſels?

A. In paſſenger veſſels from Ireland late in the fall, and beginning of winter, and occaſionally on board Weſt India veſſels, fevers reſembling the autumnal remittent are met with.

6. Q. If you have ever ſeen a vomiting of black matter in the paſſengers of Iriſh ſhips, did it occur on ſhip board, or after their removal to the hoſpital on ſhore? did the matter vomited reſemble coffee grounds, or did it appear in the form of flakes, or was it merely of a dirty brown colour?

A. The hoſpital being crowded by an unuſual number of ſick, temporary ſheds were put up and tents pitched for their reception. The four caſes of black vomit (as deſcribed under the 3d anſwer) that occurred among the Iriſh emigrants were under the ſheds or tents.

7. Q. And in thoſe caſes did the fever prove fatal, and at what period of the diſeaſe?

A. Anſwered above.

8. Q. Was this black vomit a circumſtance of frequent occurrence on board of the Iriſh ſhips, or did

the fever of thoſe ſhips frequently prove fatal without much affection of the ſtomach, and what was its uſual duration.

A. There were between 600 and 700 Iriſh paſſengers admitted into the Marine hoſpital with ſhip fever in 1801 : four caſes of black vomit, exactly reſembling that which is brought up from the ſtomach in Yellow Fever from the Weſt Indies, occurred among them; there was dark-coloured matter brought up in other caſes in the laſt ſtage of diſeaſe, though not frequent; nauſea and ſometimes vomiting occaſionally happened in the beginning, and were removed by emetics; but this affection of the ſtomach was not a very diſtreſſing ſymptom, and eaſily obviated; the duration of diſeaſe from 7 to 21 days; ſome remained a long time convaleſcent, others relapſed.

9. Q. Have you obſerved bilious diſcharges from the ſtomach to be frequent in the commencement of fevers occurring on board the Iriſh ſhips and thoſe from the Weſt Indies; or have you obſerved this circumſtance more frequently as the attendant upon fevers in thoſe veſſels from our ſouthern ſtates; and have you obſerved thoſe fevers to be equally fatal with thoſe on board the Iriſh and Weſt India veſſels?

A. Oftener from the Weſt Indies, than from Ireland, but neither very frequent. Veſſels which arrive at this port in July, Auguſt, September, and October,

ber, from South Carolina and Georgia, have generally ſome of their crew ſick with fever attended with bilious diſcharges : theſe fevers are not ſo frequent in veſſels from Virginia and North Carolina, nor are they ſo fatal as thoſe produced in crowded paſſenger veſſels or as thoſe from the Weſt Indies.

10. Q. In what ſpecies of the above fevers have you found emetics moſt ſerviceable, or have you obſerved them to be injurious in any caſe.

A. They have been given with advantage at the Marine hoſpital in the beginning of ſhip fever, in fevers from the ſouthern ſtates throughout the diſeaſe, except in caſes where there was extreme debility and peculiarity of conſtitution that would render their uſe improper ; but in Yellow Fever, where it is difficult to get the mildeſt liquids to be retained, emetics, inſtead of giving relief, only add to the already too irritable ſtate of the ſtomach, and haſten the fatal termination.

11. Q. In which caſes have you employed the bark with benefit, and in which have you obſerved it to diſagree with the patient ?

A. In ſhip-fever when there was evident remiſſion ; in bilious fever, after it had run its courſe, and left the patient exhauſted ; then the cold infuſion of bark with magneſia has been productive of benefit ; but in Yellow Fever, after there has been a complete remiſſion, the bark, inſtead of lengthening this, haſtens

haſtens the return of fever, and I have ſeldom found bark admiſſible until the patient can do well without it; therefore I conſider it a doubtful remedy, except in thoſe caſes attended with abſceſſes, and where the convaleſcence is very long.

12th. Q. Of what diſeaſe did Dr. Bayley and Dr. Ledyard periſh? have you reaſon to ſuppoſe they received the cauſe of their fevers on board of particular veſſels, or to what cauſes do you aſcribe them?

A. Both of Yellow Fever. I preſume they both received the cauſe of their diſeaſe from infected veſſels, but what particular veſſels cannot be aſcertained, as many are viſited daily; and it may ſo happen that the leaſt infected, examined when we are fatigued, or ſlightly indiſpoſed, will cauſe diſeaſe, when another in a much more polluted condition, inſpected when the body and mind are in a ſtate of vigour, will receive no injury or ſo ſlightly as readily to yield to mild remedies.

13th. Q. Have you not frequently remarked that the crew of a veſſel became unhealthy immediately upon breaking bulk, whereas at ſea they had been in good health; has this frequently been the caſe when they came from an healthy port, or was it invariably found, where they thus became ſeized with fevers upon opening the veſſel, that they had come from an unhealthy port?

A.

A. Several veſſels have arrived at this port, that have loſt part of their crews in the Weſt Indies; and ſome ſick at the time of their ſailing, who either recovered or died before the arrival of the veſſel in this port, at which time the remaining ſeamen were healthy, and no ſickneſs on board for ten or twenty days; but when thoſe ſame ſeamen were engaged in diſcharging the cargo, ſome of them ſickened and died of Yellow Fever. This pent-up air of the hold was no doubt ſimilar to that in the unhealthy port from which they came, and to which their ſhipmates fell a ſacrifice in the Weſt Indies. The ſhip General Wayne which arrived here in the year 1799, is a memorable, as well as a fatal caſe to illuſtrate this fact: on her arrival one of her ſeamen was ſick with Yellow Fever, who died a few days after his admiſſion into the Marine hoſpital; the remaining crew, about twenty-two in number, were healthy, and continued ſo until eight days after, when a paſſenger ſickened with the ſame diſeaſe. The ſhip was detained eighteen days at quarantine from the time that the laſt ſick man was removed to the hoſpital; all the crew continuing healthy, ſhe was permitted to proceed to the city (no ſtores being built at Staten Iſland at that time to receive the cargoes of infected veſſels, no part of the General Wayne's was removed while ſhe remained at quarantine) where, in a few days after ſhe came to a wharf,

wharf, and when they began to unload, ſeveral inhabitants in the neighbourhood ſickened and died of Yellow Fever.

14th. Q. Have you obſerved the Yellow Fever to ſpread in your hoſpital in any ſeaſon when introduced, or is it in no inſtance communicated upon Staten Iſland?

A. Since the eſtabliſhment of the quarantine ground at Staten Iſland, two perſons connected with the inſtitution, beſides the health-officers, have died with Yellow Fever, one a ſervant of Dr. Bayley's, who frequently ſlept in the hoſpital, in the year 1799, the other, in the year 1800, an aged carpenter. A nurſe had the diſeaſe laſt ſeaſon: the attendants have been indiſpoſed with fever every year, but never ſo completely marked as to be denominated Yellow Fever, excepting thoſe already mentioned.

15th. Q. What was Dr. Ledyard's opinion of the origin of Yellow Fever, that it was imported from the Weſt-Indies, or generated at home?

Dr. Ledyard believed in the excluſive importation of the Yellow Fever, and his reaſons for it were, that during his reſidence in this city, before and after the American revolution, when it was in a very filthy condition, he never ſaw the diſeaſe; and while practiſing on Long Iſland, he frequently had patients with malignant and infectious fevers

ariſing

ariſing from animal and vegetable putrefaction, but never attended with ſuch ſymptoms as occur in Yellow Fever; which diſeaſe he firſt attended on Long Iſland, in 1798, brought from this city.

Letter from Dr. David Hoſack of New York, to Dr. William Currie.

This paper (Dr. Joſeph Bayley's) contains a ſtatement of the ſituation, &c. of our quarantine ground. The difference between ſhip and Yellow Fever in its fatality is here clearly ſhewn. It will alſo be obſerved, that many perſons from the Iriſh ſhips were ſubſequently attacked with Yellow fever; the conſequence of being introduced into the hoſpital where the Yellow Fever prevailed at the time, or had lately exiſted. This meaſure was unavoidable, as they had not ſufficient apartments to ſeparate the ſick. This fact Dr. Bayley before ſtated to me, that he had ſeen no black vomit, nor other characteriſtic ſymptoms of Yellow Fever amongſt the Iriſh patients, until they had been ſome days in the hoſpital; or in other words, had been expoſed to the infection of Yellow Fever.

You are welcome to make any uſe of the papers I ſend you. The teſtimonies of Dr. Bard, and Dr. Charlton

Charlton muſt be very intereſting, and not leſs ſo the communication of Dr. Joſeph Bayley from our quarantine ground.

It may not be an unimportant fact, that I have been informed by the ſame gentleman, that Dr. Ledyard died of the Yellow Fever at the quarantine ground, and not of gout, as repreſented.

Dr. Ledyard, when he firſt entered upon the duties of the Health-office, as he himſelf informed me, went to Staten Iſland with the belief that the Yellow Fever was not an imported diſeaſe, but generated at home. A few weeks before his death he informed me that he had been compelled to change his belief, and that all his obſervations at the Health-office ſatisfied him that the Yellow Fever was excluſively derived from the Weſt-Indies. That he had ſeen the bilious remittent from our ſouthern ſtates, and the ſhip fever in the crowded ſhips from Ireland, but that he had never ſeen the black vomit and the orange-coloured ſkin attending either the fever of the Iriſh veſſels or the bilious remittent from Georgia or the Carolinas. The records of the New York hoſpital will alſo teſtify, if neceſſary, that in no one inſtance where the ſhip fever of the Iriſh veſſels proved fatal, it was terminated either by the yellow ſkin or black

black vomit. Three or four years ſince many of the ſick were conveyed to our City Hoſpital, and were attended by Dr. Hamerſley and myſelf; and, generally, where they proved fatal, it was not in leſs than from fifteen to twenty-five days: not ſo, certainly, with Yellow Fever.

Yours, truly,

D. HOSACK.

New York,
January 19th, 1805.

Caſes of Yellow Fever which occurred in the Pennſylvania Hoſpital, in the year 1798.

BY the minutes of the ſitting managers of the Pennſylvania Hoſpital it appears, that on the 25th of Auguſt, 1798, "no caſe has occurred of Yellow "Fever this month in the hoſpital. The patients "have been forbid to go out, and viſitors to come "in, by the ſitting managers; on account of the "ſaid fever prevailing in the city. They alſo by a "minute have excepted againſt the admiſſion of all "fevers, during the prevalence of the preſent epi-"demic; and agreed, that the phyſicians ſhould *not* "recommend

" recommend any caſes from houſes in which the " diſorder is ſuſpected to be."

September 22d, 1798. They ſay, " Catharine " Shepard, the aſſiſtant nurſe of the men's ward, " took the Yellow Fever the 8th inſt. and remains ill " in the houſe. She is ſuppoſed to have taken the " fever, by going for clothes into the city. The " ſitting-managers, at the requeſt of Wm. Anneſly " and James Brown, (two of the journeymen car- " penters employed in the building) admitted them " to ſleep in the garret of the weſtern apartment, " on their promiſing not to enter the city; and " agreeing, if taken ill of the fever, to be removed, " if required, to the City Hoſpital. William An- " neſly is now unwell, and ſuppoſed to be in the " fever, but not aſcertained. He has been ſeveral " times in town, which may account for his taking " the diſorder."

October 27th, 1798. The managers ſay, " Our " pupil, G. Lee, took the Yellow Fever the 7th " inſt. he ſuppoſes in the city. Patrick Savage " the cell-keeper got drunk on receiving his wages, " and lay all night in a houſe where the fever was; " and in the morning of the 8th, he took it very " badly. Elizabeth M'Gregor took the fever the " 14th.

" 14th. She had not been in the city at all, ſince " it broke out. Mordecai Ackly took it the ſame " day, and died on the 19th. He had *not* been out " of the hoſpital for four months paſt. On the 14th, " Caleb Parr took it alſo, and died the next day, " he had *not* been in town for years. Barbara Place, " the cook, juſt employed as ſuch from Paſſyunk, " took it the 20th, and died the 25th; ſhe might " have brought it with her: and Elizabeth Robe- " ſon, nurſe of the New Houſe, took it the 27th."
N. B. She died in November.

From the foregoing records it appears, Catharine Shepard, William Anneſly, Dr. Lee and Patrick Savage caught the fever by viſiting infected houſes in the city; and that Elizabeth M'Gregor, Mordecai Ackly, Caleb Parr and Elizabeth Robeſon afterwards took the diſeaſe, probably from the *firſt* mentioned caſes having brought the fever into the houſe. Doctor Lee afterwards obſerved, that ſome more of the patients were indiſpoſed, but ſoon recovered. All ſuſpicious caſes were kept apart from the well, and every unneceſſary intercourſe forbid; which prevented the diſeaſe from ſpreading any further in the hoſpital.

THOMAS PARKE,
One of the Phyſicians of the Pennsylvania Hoſpital.

July 1805.

Statement of facts tending to prove the contagious nature of the Yellow Fever, at Germantown, in the year 1798, *by C. Wistar, M. D.*

THE diſeaſe which produced the fatal effects now to be related, commenced in the family of Elizabeth Johnſon, a widow who lived in the main ſtreet of the village of Germantown, about ſix and an half miles from Philadelphia.

The perſon firſt affected was her child, Betſey Johnſon, who had been in Philadelphia from the third to the ſeventh of Auguſt, in a neighbourhood where ſeveral caſes of the fever had already appeared. She returned home the ſeventh, and on the ninth of the ſame month was attacked with the Yellow Fever, which terminated fatally in four days.

Fourteen days after her death, viz. Auguſt 27th, Mrs. Duy, the next neighbour of Mrs. Johnſon, who had viſited Betſey ſeveral times during her illneſs, was attacked with a fever ſuppoſed to be of the ſame kind, and died at the end of four days.

On the thirtieth of Auguſt, the wife of Charles Hubbs, who alſo lived near to Mrs. Johnſon, and had viſited both Betſey and Mrs. Duy, once at leaſt during their reſpective indiſpoſitions, *but had not been in Philadelphia for many months*, was attacked with unequivocal ſymptoms of the Yellow Fever,

Fever, in its moſt malignant form, and died the 2d of September.

Mr. Duy, huſband of the above-mentioned Mrs. Duy, was attacked eighteen days after the death of his wife, viz. September 18, and died alſo, after an illneſs of ſix days.

A few days after the death of Mrs. Duy, an Engliſh gentleman and his wife, of the name of Fiſher, who had fled from Philadelphia on account of the fever, went to board with Mr. Duy, and were placed in the chamber occupied by his late wife during her illneſs: they were alſo attacked with fever. Mrs. Fiſher was taken, September 19th, and recovered in a few days, but Mr. Fiſher, who was attacked four days after his wife, died with the black vomit, the 27th of September.

At the ſame time, the diſeaſe re-appeared in Mrs. Johnſon's family, in a young female ſervant, who was very ill, but recovered,—ſoon after the attack of this girl, Mrs. Johnſon herſelf was taken ill with the ſame diſeaſe: ſhe had viſited both of her neighbours, Mrs. Duy and Mrs. Hubbs, while they were ſick, ſhe alſo had aſſorted the clothes of her deceaſed daughter, four or five days before her own attack commenced, but had not been in Philadelphia for a month. Her diſorder continued eight days, and terminated the 28th of September, with convulſions and the black vomit.

A few days before the death of Mrs. Johnſon, Elizabeth Stern, a woman who lived in the family, was attacked with fever, and became very yellow. Her ſymptoms appeared moderate at firſt, but after lingering a fortnight ſhe died alſo.—The wife of a tenant of Mrs. Johnſon, who lived in a ſeparate part of the houſe, but uſed the ſame yard, was attacked before the death of Elizabeth Stern, and recovered with great difficulty.

The laſt victim to be mentioned, was one Stephen Poſt, an old man, who lived at a diſtance, but worked in Mr. Duy's barn, while the bed was there on which Mrs. Duy died. He alſo was attacked with fever, and died in a few days.

Theſe melancholy circumſtances occurred in a village which has long been remarkable for its ſalubrity, at a time when the other inhabitants enjoyed their uſual health. In moſt of the caſes, the diſeaſe appears to have been contracted at the houſe of Mrs. Johnſon, which, before this diſtreſſing period, had been eminently diſtinguiſhed by the health and longevity of its inhabitants. The family were extremely neat, and it may be aſſerted with confidence, that the premiſes were never more clean, than they were at the time of this truly affecting cataſtrophe. What cauſe but contagion is adequate to the production of ſuch a diſeaſe among perſons ſo ſituated?

Philadelphia, Dec. 15, 1805.

Germantown

Letter from Dr. George Bensell to Dr. Caspar Wistar.

Germantown, May 4th, 1805.

Dear Sir,

THE events that took place in Germantown in the ſummer of 1798, have excited much attention and diſcuſſion; tending to eſtabliſh the belief of the exiſtence of contagion in Yellow Fever, even out of the city of Philadelphia. Some of the caſes brought forward for this purpoſe having come under my obſervation, I ſhall ſtate them, as they occurred, agreeably to your deſire, leaving to your judgment, to draw the proper inference therefrom.

On the 10th Auguſt, 1798, I was called to the daughter of Mrs. Johnſon, whom I found labouring under fever, with ſymptoms of the moſt alarming nature: I immediately ſuggeſted to a friend of the family, that it was probable it would terminate fatally, and at the ſame time intimated, that ſhe had the Yellow Fever. She died on the 13th.

On the 30th Auguſt, I was requeſted to ſee Mrs. Hubbs, who lived immediately oppoſite to Mrs. Johnſon's: ſhe was ſeized with a violent vomiting, which had continued ſeveral hours, and was accompanied with ardent and inceſſant fever; bearing ſtrong

ſtrong marks of malignancy, on the ſecond day from the attack. She died on the 2d September, having previouſly vomited the browniſh fluid ſo frequently deſcribed. Her ſkin was a deep orange colour; and various livid ſpots were to be ſeen on her neck, breaſt, and arms.—The mortality which ſoon afterwards happened in the neighbourhood, I had not an opportunity of making remarks on; but it is certain, that no fever had hitherto exiſted in Germantown, within the limits of my knowledge, whoſe tendency and termination poſſeſſed ſuch powerful tokens of contagion.

In the caſe of Mrs. Hubbs, I had the moſt ſolemn aſſurances, that ſhe had not been in the city during the ſummer; and theſe were made by her huſband, a man eminent for the moral rectitude of his conduct, and a diſtinguiſhed preacher, among the ſociety *of Duncards*.

How then ſhall we account for the rapid violence of her death, the preſence of ſymptoms ſo unuſual and deſtructive, as well as the ſubſequent ſigns of malignancy after diſeaſe? This woman's fate has always been to me completely inexplicable. In the courſe of 19 years, I have never ſeen any thing like it in Germantown, or in the ſurrounding country, where my practice has extended.

The

The village itſelf is ſcarcely ſuſceptible of the autumnal diſeaſes, that are to be found every year on higher and lower ground, above, below, and around it: the proper line of demarcation might commence from the height as you enter it, and end at *Cliveden*, the ſummer reſidence of Mr. Chew; immediately above which, is Beggarſtown, where the dyſentery began in 1803, and extended itſelf to Cheſnut-hill, wearing the appearance of an epidemic: its progreſs was marked with unuſual fatality, to adults as well as children.

In 1802, I do not recollect in my practice a caſe of ſcarlet-fever in the village—but it was to be met with in ſhort, and remote diſtances from it; and ſeemed to traverſe every poſſible variety of ſituation. I found it along the margins of the *Schuylkill* and *Wiſſahiccon*, as well as on the high and rocky grounds above.

This ſingular excluſion from epidemics, it would perhaps be difficult to aſſign any good reaſon for: but facts of this kind may be traced, as far back as 1787, when the cynanche maligna ſwept away a great proportion of many families, on the elevated ſituations of the *Ridge* and *Cheſnut-hill*, as well

well as in the low lands of the neighbouring townſhips.

With the greateſt eſteem and friendſhip,

I am, dear ſir,

Your moſt obedient ſervant.

GEORGE BENSELL.

DR. CASPAR WISTAR.

Letters from Dr. Charles Meredith to Dr. S. P. Griffitts.

Philadelphia, May 3d, 1805.

MY DEAR SIR,

I am extremely ſorry it is not in my power to furniſh you with a very circumſtantial account of the diſeaſes of Robert Kirkbride and his daughter. I was not engaged in attendance on either of them, and I believe ſaw them but once. The circumſtances, in both caſes, were however too impreſſive to be eaſily forgotten. During the prevalence of the Yellow Fever, in the autumn of 1798, Mr. Kirkbride made a viſit to Philadelphia. Very ſoon after his departure from thence, he was attacked with ſymptoms of fever, and immediately on his arrival at home, about 26 miles from the city, my father was called in, who attended him during the remainder of his illneſs. I ſaw

ſaw him on the following day; he appeared much affected with languor and debility, and preſented the uſual appearances of a perſon ſtruggling with the firſt ſymptoms of a highly malignant diſeaſe. His eyes were much ſuffuſed with blood, and his pulſe did not exceed forty pulſations in a minute. I fully concurred with my father in opinion, that his diſeaſe was entirely ſimilar to that which prevailed at the ſame time in this city, to ſuch an alarming degree. Not having an opportunity of ſeeing him afterwards, I am unable to detail the ſymptoms as they occurred; but the event fully juſtified the opinion we had formed: an intenſe yellowneſs of the ſkin took place early, and he died, I believe, on the ninth day.

His daughter, a young woman, of about 18 years of age, attended him as nurſe during his illneſs, and at the time of his death, was ſeized with ſymptoms of fever, which exhibited from the firſt ſtill greater marks of malignity; but as I did not ſee her till the day ſhe died, it is not in my power to give you a hiſtory of her caſe; the appearances then, however, left me no room to doubt of the nature of her diſeaſe. There was an univerſal ſuffuſion of bile over the whole ſurface of her body, which, I was informed, had taken place on the third day; and ſhe had vomited much dark-coloured matter, reſembling coffee-

coffee-grounds, the morning I ſaw her; from that time till her death, ſhe continued in a ſtate of ſtupor, from which ſhe could with difficulty be awakened, her countenance exhibiting, at the ſame time, the moſt ſtriking indications of the ravages of Yellow Fever. She died on the fifth day. From all the ſymptoms that I ſaw, and learned from her attendants, I could not heſitate to believe her diſeaſe was, in its nature, preciſely ſimilar to her father's; but owing, perhaps, to her time of life, and greater degree of prediſpoſition, ſtill more malignant, and ſpeedy in its termination. I regret much, that my information on this ſubject is ſo limited, but think it probable I can procure a more particular account of both caſes; if ſo, I will take an early opportunity to communicate it.

I am, with much reſpect,
Yours, &c.
CHARLES MEREDITH.

Dr. Griffitts.

Philadelphia, May 30th, 1805.

My Dear Sir,

I have been diſappointed in my expectation of receiving further information reſpecting the caſes of Mr. Kirkbride and his daughter. It appears, there have

have been no regular ſtatements preſerved; but am happy to ſay, that my father's account, although not more minute, correſponds entirely with that I had the pleaſure to communicate ſome time ago.

As the daughter of Mr. Kirkbride had not been in Philadelphia, previouſly to her illneſs, the circumſtances of her diſeaſe were calculated to excite conſiderable alarm, and more eſpecially ſo, as no perſon appeared to entertain a doubt of the ſource whence it proceeded: every one ſeemed ready to attribute it to contagion received from the father, and indeed her conſtant attendance, together with the ſolicitude and fear with which ſhe regarded the ſituation of a beloved parent, muſt have rendered her ſyſtem extremely favourable to the reception of diſeaſe. But what principally favoured the opinion of the daughter's illneſs depending on the contagious nature of her father's, was the general ſtate of health that prevailed in the place. Few local ſituations are perhaps entirely exempted from the occaſional viſits of autumnal fever; but in this particular neighbourhood there exiſt few of its remote cauſes, and conſequently its appearance is by no means frequent, and its ſymptoms ſeldom marked by any peculiar malignity. Although Mr. Kirkbride's family was numerous, I do not recollect a caſe of autumnal remittent to have happened in it before or after the fatal

fatal period in 1798. There were, however, a few cafes in the vicinity, about the time of Mr. Kirkbride's death, the only one of which I recollect to have terminated fatally, was protracted until the twentieth day.

I have, fir, ftated fuch facts as have recurred to my recollection, and cannot conclude without regretting my inability to give a more minute account of a cafe, which might perhaps have *fome* tendency to elucidate a fubject, that has called forth different opinions from men of the higheft perfonal merit, and profeffional refpectability.

With fincere eftеem,

Yours, &c.

CHARLES MEREDITH.

DR. SAMUEL P. GRIFFITTS.

Doctor John Wilson's Letter to Dr. Wistar.

DEAR SIR,

I received your requeft of July 2d, refpecting the cafe of R. Kirkbride's daughter; but perhaps I am not fufficiently able to fatisfy you on the fubject, as I was not called upon in the primary ftage of her complaint. I was called to vifit R. Kirkbride's daughter, October 3d, 1798, and on the third day of

her diſeaſe. She was labouring under all the ſymptoms of Yellow Fever as deſcribed by authors, and ſimilar to thoſe I had before ſeen, only attended with more yellowneſs of the ſkin: I viſited her twice on the 4th, and once on the 5th of October, upon which day ſhe died. I was informed, that ſhe had not been to the city, or even from home, for ſome time. She nurſed her father with great diligence, during his illneſs, who was kept pretty much confined in a ſmall room, and was once very much overcome with fear, on account of his fainting. The neighbourhood of R. Kirkbride, as well as my own, was very healthy, as far as my obſervation and practice extended, during the prevalence of Yellow Fever in your city, and not one caſe of our common bilious fever occurred during that time, as far as I can recollect.

Dr. Meredith, ſenr. attended R. Kirkbride during his illneſs, and alſo his daughter in the primary part of her diſeaſe. From him ſome light, poſſibly, may be obtained on this ſubject.

With ſentiments of eſteem,
I remain,
Your friend and well wiſher,
JOHN WILSON.

July 10th, 1805.
DR. CASPAR WISTAR.

Letter from Dr. Eneas Munſon, to Dr. William Shippen.

New-Haven, May 3d, 1805.

SIR,

Yours of the 27th ult. in due time came to hand; but my ill health prevented that immediate attention to the ſubject which it merited, and might have been expected.

In the year 1794, we were viſited with the Yellow Fever in this town: I then took much pains to find out and aſcertain the origin of it, by collecting facts. My ſcrutiny in the affair excited others to the ſame inquiry. We found the facts to be ſuch, as ſoon convinced the more thinking part of the town, that it was introduced by the ſloop Iris, and ſpread by contagion, from one to another, in almoſt every inſtance, as far as it prevailed. The facts were at that time ſo recent and obvious, and the public mind was ſo fully convinced, that I neglected the neceſſary ſteps to authenticate my communications to Mr. Webſter, which he publiſhed, not apprehending the importance and conſequence of it; but as thoſe facts were, in the public prints, ſaid to be ſtated from popular tales and idle reports, I was under the neceſſity, about two years ſince, of going over the ground again, in vindication of my character,

ter, in regard to my communications, as in Mr. W.'s publication; and although at ſuch a diſtance of time, when many witneſſes were not to be procured, yet the more ſubſtantial facts were ſupported by the depoſitions of a number of our moſt reſpectable citizens, which are now in the hands of either Doctor David Hoſack, or the Editor of the Evening Poſt, New York. An inſtance of importation at Chatham, on Connecticut river, might have been as clearly evinced as that in New-Haven: but I have too many matters at this time of life to attend to, beſide hunting up evidence to eſtabliſh a fact ſo abundantly evinced already.

I could mention a number of ſolitary caſes of its introduction ſince, and thoſe decided and clearly marked; but what ſhall I ſay more? Through all my pilgrimage in life, which is upwards of ſeventy years, I have never met with any of the human race more blind than thoſe who were determined they would not ſee.

Such vouchers as I have procured, I wiſh may be lodged in ſome public records, for the benefit of thoſe who may come after us; though I do not think it will remain long a ſubject of diſpute

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

ENEAS MUNSON.

DR. WILLIAM SHIPPEN.

History of the origin and progreſs of the Yellow Fever in New-Haven, 1794. Extracted from the New-York Evening Poſt, of October, 1803.

" The hiſtory of the origin and progreſs of the *Yellow Fever* at New-Haven, has been compiled by gentlemen on the ſpot, fully competent to the taſk, and unincumbered with the bias of diſtorting theories. They have preſented us with a minute and well connected ſeries of facts, which, having been recorded while of recent occurrence, are calculated to make an impreſſion too deep and laſting, to give way to diſingenuous cavils, or ſilly ſophiſtries."

The following ſtatements are made by Dr. Munſon, jun. and his father, and publiſhed by Mr. Webſter, in 1796.

" On the 10th of June 1794, (ſays Dr. Munſon) the peſtilential, or Yellow Fever, appeared here. Dr. Hotchkiſs viſited Iſaac Gorham's wife, on the Long-Wharf. She complained of a violent pain in her head, back and limbs; her eyes were dull and ſlightly inflamed; ſhe had nauſea at her ſtomach, was obſtinately coſtive, with a moderate degree of fever. No marks of inflammation were diſcoverable by inſpection in the throat. The diſtreſsful ſymptoms

toms, above mentioned, continued till the fourteenth; when her pain and diſtreſs ſuddenly ſubſided, and ſhe was elated with the proſpect of a ſpeedy recovery. In the evening ſhe vomited matter reſembling coffee-grounds; and died on the fifteenth. The phyſician who attended her, was ignorant of her complaint till he ſaw what ſhe had vomited. He then declared her diſeaſe to be the *Yellow Fever.*

On the 15th of June, I viſited Elias Gorham's daughter, a child of eight years of age, in Chapel-Street, three-quarters of a mile from Iſaac Gorham's houſe. She had been ſick three days; her countenance was fluſhed with a deep red colour; her eyes were dull, and highly inflamed; ſhe had violent pain in her head, back, and limbs; nauſea, and frequent vomiting; obſtinate coſtiveneſs; a quick, full, hard, throbbing pulſe; her ſkin was hot and dry; and her tongue covered with a thick white fur. On the 16th, her pain and diſtreſs ſuddenly abated; in a few hours, ſhe vomited up matter reſembling coffee-grounds; and died the next day. I inſpected her throat, during her illneſs, and could diſcover no marks of inflammation.

I was ſurpriſed at the ſingular appearance of the diſeaſe, and hearing of the death of Mrs. Gorham, (Iſaac Gorham's wife) inquired of the mother if her daughter

daughter had been on the *wharf*. She informed me that the child had lived with her aunt. (Iſaac Gorham's wife) nearly a week.

The 23d of June, I viſited the child's mother. She complained of violent pain in her head, back, and limbs; nauſea; frequent vomiting; obſtinate coſtiveneſs; with a conſiderable degree of fever. Theſe ſymptoms continued five or ſix days; then gradually abated; and ſoon after ſhe recovered her uſual health.

On the 20th of June, Mr. Elijah Auſtin died in New-York; and his clerk, Henry Hubbard, died in Derby. They complained within three or four hours of each other; and Mr. Hubbard vomited matter reſembling coffee-grounds.

The inhabitants of this town were alarmed at theſe ſudden deaths, and requeſted the *ſelect-men* to make diligent inquiry into the origin of this diſeaſe. On examination, it appeared, that in the beginning of June, captain Truman arrived from Martinico, in a ſloop that was infected with the contagion of the Yellow Fever; that this veſſel lay at the *wharf*, within a few rods of Iſaac Gorham's houſe; that ſhe had on board a *chest of clothes*, which had belonged to a mariner who died of the Yellow Fever in Martinico; and that his cheſt was carried into Mr. Auſtin's

Auſtin's ſtore, and opened in the preſence of captain Truman, Mr. Auſtin, Henry Hubbard, and Polly Gorham; the three laſt mentioned of whom died in a ſhort time after their expoſure to the contents of the cheſt:—hence it is highly probable, that Mrs. Gorham caught the diſeaſe from the infected ſloop, or clothing. Mr. Auſtin's ſtore ſtands within three or four rods of Iſaac Gorham's houſe; and no perſon in town was known to have the Yellow Fever previous to captain Truman's arrival.

June 26th, Iſaac Gorham loſt an infant child with the Yellow Fever; and ſoon after his ſon and daughter were affected with it. The former died. Solomon Mudge died on the 30th; Jacob Thomſon's negro woman, on the 1ſt of July; Archibald M'Niel on the 9th; Polly Brown on the 3d of Auguſt; John Storer, jun. and John Hide, on the 8th; and widow Thomſon, on the 10th.—*Jacob Thomſon's negro woman, Solomon Mudge, John Storer, jun.* and *John Hide, had viſited Mr. Gorham's houſe a few days before their illneſs; Polly Brown and Mrs. Thomſon, nursed in Mr. Gorham's family;* and *Archibald M'Neil nursed Solomon Mudge.*—Elias Gill died on the 12th of Auguſt; and Samuel Griſwold's wife on the 7th: *the former viſited Mr. Gorham's houſe; the latter nurſed in his family.*

There were a number of perſons who caught the diſeaſe at Mr. Gorham's houſe, and recovered.

Mrs. Thomſon, on the firſt day of her illneſs, was moved half a mile from Mr. Gorham's into George-ſtreet. Luther Fitch caught the diſeaſe from Mrs. Thomſon, and communicated it to his ſervant maid. Both recovered.—Mr. Fitch lives in College-ſtreet, nearly three-quarters of a mile diſtant from Mr. Gorham's houſe. I could trace the diſeaſe throughout the town. *No perſon had the Yellow Fever, unleſs in conſequence of attending the ſick, or of being expoſed by nurſes, infected houſes, clothing, or furniture.*

I have inquired of ſeveral aged perſons in this town, relative to the Yellow Fever, whether they knew of its having ever been here previous to June 1794; and there is but a ſingle inſtance, the facts relating to which are theſe:—In the year 1743, a tranſient perſon, by the name of Nevins, who came from the Weſt-Indies, lodged at the houſe of Nathaniel Brown, an inn-keeper, in this city. The man was taken very ſick in the night; and died ſhortly afterwards; and his body was very yellow, after death. Mr. Brown's wife ſickened in a ſhort time, and died of the ſame complaint; which was at that time ſuppoſed to be the Yellow Fever.

The

The following is an account of the number who died, with the Yellow Fever, in New-Haven, in the different months of the year 1794:

June,	6
July,	3
Auguſt,	16
September,	26
October,	12
November,	1
Total	64

Of this number, forty-eight vomited matter reſembling coffee-grounds, or port wine. There were about a hundred and ſixty perſons who had the Yellow Fever. Three perſons recovered who vomited matter like coffee-grounds; but none recovered, that I remember, who vomited matter reſembling port wine. Some vomited a viſcid, tough mucus, ſimilar to the white of an egg; others, matter like chocolate, which were as fatal as the black vomit.

"In reſpect to the origin and nature of the diſeaſe under conſideration, I eſteem it juſtifiable to reaſon from facts alone. I am fully of opinion that the Yellow Fever is ſeldom or never generated in this country, [but] that it is

always

always imported from abroad." "Had it ever appeared in Connecticut, before the year 1743, and June, 1794, we ſhould, undoubtedly, have had ſome record of the fact. There is no ſuch record, and no perſon remembers to have heard of ſuch a diſeaſe, but at theſe periods, prevailing in any part of the ſtate. There are numbers of aged perſons in New-Haven, who remember the putrid ulcerous ſore throat, ſmall-pox, meaſles, dyſentery, &c. raging here, with great mortality; but have no recollection of any Yellow Fever. Hence we may rationally conclude that it never did appear, in this ſtate, but in the years 1743, and 1794.

"If the citizens of large commercial cities were attentive in tracing the origin of the Yellow Fever, on its *firſt appearing among them*, they would often *find* that the diſeaſe was imported. In ſome inſtances it would be extremely difficult to diſcover the origin. But the miſchief lies in this—that the inhabitants of ſuch cities, whenever a contagious diſeaſe makes its appearance among them, endeavour to ſuppreſs all rumor of it, from an apprehenſion of alarming the country and injuring their commerce; unwilling to believe that there is evil in the city till the diſeaſe ſpreads in every direction. Then, indeed, when it is too late, they are ſolicitous in the uſe of means

means to arreſt its progreſs. As it extends itſelf ſlowly, at firſt, ſeaſonable exertion might both detect its ſource and prevent its increaſe; but when it is diffuſed through a city, it ſpreads with rapidity, and it is no longer poſſible to diſcover where it began. But as, whenever the Yellow Fever has appeared in the United States, it has always been in ſea-port towns, and originated near wharves, docks and warehouſes, there ſeems to be high probability that the diſeaſe is imported.

ELIJAH MUNSON.

New Haven, April 24, 1796.

Extract from the Letter of Dr. Munſon, ſen.

" We have never, in this part of the country, (except in a ſingle inſtance in the year 1743, been acquainted with a fever altogether ſimilar to the one in queſtion. True, ſome chronic complaints in the viſcera, as well as acute ſporadic fevers, ending in ſphacelation, have been attended with the vomiting of a fluid, putting on the appearance of coffee-grounds, and terminated in a black vomit. We have often ſeen continual endemical fevers, intermittent, and remittent bilious fevers, originating

from the putrid gaſes of animals and vegetables commixed, as from draining of ponds and ſtagnant waters—but no diſeaſe from theſe ſources, or any in our climate, I conceive, ever compared with what is generally known by the name of Yellow Fever; no diſeaſe attended with ſo great rapidity, or characteriſed by that *deep-ſhaded*, univerſal yellowneſs, and vomiting of black-coloured matter, oozing from the ſurface of the ſtomach.

Dr. Ferriar obſerves, that peſtilential diſorders are not to be aſcribed to animal putridity. Inſtances have been adduced in which thouſands of dead bodies have been left to putrify on fields of battle, without producing peſtilential fever; nor have fevers been obſerved to originate, or to rage more ſeverely, in houſes ſurrounding church-yards, though the ſtench is often inſufferably offenſive.

ENEAS MUNSON."

New Haven, April, 1796.

Mr. Webſter, in his "Concluding Obſervations," admits the force of the above facts to be ſuch as to make out one caſe of importation. "It ſeems to be *proved*, (ſuch are his words) *that in New-Haven the diſeaſe was introduced and propagated by infection.*"

The

The year ſubſequent to the above publication, Dr. Munſon ſenior, in anſwer to a letter from Dr. Hoſack of New-York, inquiring if any additional facts had come to his knowledge, gives him the following information which is tranſcribed from the original.

" It was evident in almoſt every inſtance that the ſick had been expoſed. We were a long time, however, in the dark, reſpecting a ſmall child about two years old, as the parents were confident it had never been abroad to be expoſed. This was at length explained by one of the nurſes, *who had been long in the infection*, who informed, that as he was paſſing the houſe, he ſaw the child endangered by a carriage, he caught it up in his arms and ſet it into the houſe, unknown to the parents. Another [youth] which died with the black vomit, the phyſician confidently aſſerted died of worms and not of the fever, which the inhabitants had conceived ſuch apprehenſions of at this time. The neighbourhood entertained an high opinion of the phyſician, and from unbounded confidence in him, friends and neighbours went in, as uſual, to perform their kind offices to the ſick. After death, the diſeaſed was permitted the cuſtomary ceremonies of burial, which before this time had been laid aſide in this fever. The corpſe was expoſed to view as is common, and borne of eight bearers, attended by a large proceſſion. The conſequence was a more extenſive ſpread of the fever than

than was known during the whole ſickneſs from any one individual. *Six out of the eight bearers were ſeized with the fever within a week*, and many who attended at the houſe."

Notwithſtanding Mr. Webſter, after publiſhing the communication of Doctors Munſon, acknowledged, that " in New-Haven, the diſeaſe was introduced and propagated by infection, yet he afterwards publiſhed in the Commercial Advertiſer, a laboured refutation of every important circumſtance, and attempted to produce a concluſion diametrically oppoſite, without the leaſt apology for his change of opinion.

This occaſioned Doctor Munſon, ſen. to be again applied to for information on the ſubject; and in a letter, in anſwer, dated New Haven, September, 1803, he confirms his former ſtatements, and aſſerts that he has never ſeen reaſon to alter his opinion with reſpect to the introduction of the Yellow Fever into New Haven, in 1794.

From Mr. Webſter's account, it would appear, that the ſloop Iris, Capt. Trueman, from Martinico, arrived [not firſt at New Haven, but] at New-York the latter part of May, 1794. Her crew and paſſengers being in health, ſhe was admitted as a clean veſſel,

veſſel, and hauled up at or near a wharf. Here ſhe lay wind-bound, from eight to twelve days ; during which time, no perſon on board was ill. Early in June, the ſloop arrived at New Haven, as has been related by Dr. Munſon.

Mr. Webſter does not deny, that the caſes of Yellow Fever, mentioned by Dr. Munſon, occurred at New Haven, ſoon after the arrival of the ſloop at that place; but does not allow, that they originated from any contagion or infection imported in the ſloop, although he acknowledges in one of his laſt publications on this ſubject, that "from the ſloop "was landed a cheſt of clothes, which belonged to "a ſeaman who died with Fever in Martinico; "which cheſt was opened and the contents invento-"ried by Mr. Auſtin in his ſtore, in preſence of "capt. Truman, of Henry Hubbard, and of Polly "Gorham, a niece of Iſaac Gorham; Mr. Auſtin "and his clerk, continues he, were ſeized a few "days after opening of the cheſt, &c." and in the next page he ſays, "If Mr. Auſtin, and his clerk, "received the ſeeds of the diſeaſe from the clothing "of the cheſt, *as it is poſſible they did*, the ſources "of the diſeaſe muſt have been the fœtid effluvia of "dirty clothes, which had been a long time cloſe "packed in a cheſt in a ſultry climate."

To prove that the contagion or infection was not imported into New Haven in the blanket or clothing of the ſeaman who died of Yellow Fever from on board the ſloop Iris, whilſt at Martinico —Mr. Webſter and the committee of the medical ſociety of New-York, refer to the following affidavits of Leverett Stevens, and captain Trueman.

Affidavit of the mate of the ſloop Iris.

City of New York, ſſ.

Leverett Stevens, late mate of the ſloop Iris, of New-Haven, being duly ſworn, depoſeth and ſaith —That he knew John Wilſon, the ſailor belonging to the ſaid ſloop—That he, this deponent, was on ſhore with him at the time of his death, and aſſiſted in ſewing up in *a blanket*, the body of the ſaid John Wilſon, together with *all the wearing apparel which he had on ſhore*, and that *no part whatever of the ſame, was returned on board of the ſloop.* And this deponent further ſaith, that the regimental coat found in the cheſt of the deceaſed, on board, was a new garment, taken out of a bale a few days before, in the preſence of this deponent, and to the beſt of his knowledge and belief, had never been worn. And this deponent further ſaith, that the jackets and trowſers found in the ſaid cheſt were al-

ſo

ſo new, and taken a few days before, in the ſight of this deponent, from another bale of goods; and as this deponent verily believes, had never been worn by the ſaid John Wilſon, *in his life-time*, nor by any other perſon. And this deponent further ſaith, that being at the compting-houſe of Elijah Auſtin, *before* the opening of John Wilſon's cheſt of things in the ſtore, and before the ſaid Elijah's departure for the city of New-York, whither he ſaid he was going, this deponent heard him complain of being unwell, but that notwithſtanding, he muſt proceed on his journey. And further this deponent ſaith not.

LEVERETT STEVENS.

Sworn before me this 16th Nov. 1798.

GABRIEL FURMAN, *Alderman.*

Affidavit of the captain of the ſloop Iris.

City of New York, ſſ.

Daniel Trueman, late commander of the ſloop Iris, which ſailed from New Haven in the winter of the year 1794, on a voyage to Martinique, being duly ſworn, depoſeth and ſaith—After his arrival at the port of Saint Pierre's, his veſſel was taken from him by the authority there—That while the veſſel was detained, he, this deponent, and part of his people, lived on ſhore—That after the condemnation

nation and ſale of his veſſel, he, this deponent, became the purchaſer. And this deponent further ſaith, that the remainder of his crew, conſiſting of his mate and two men, were employed, during part of the time aforeſaid, in the buſineſs of droguing, in the employ of the government there—That on the return of the mate and the two men aforeſaid, he, this deponent, took poſſeſſion of the ſaid ſloop Iris, and carried his whole crew on board, and that afterwards, within three days, *one of the men*, named John Wilſon, was taken ſick of a fever, and within a *few hours* was carried on ſhore, where he died, and was buried in the *clothes which he wore during his ſickneſs, no article whereof was returned on board the Iris.* And this deponent further ſaith, that on ſetting ſail, his crew, including paſſengers, to the beſt of this deponent's recollection, conſiſted of fifteen perſons—That the cheſt of the deceaſed John Wilſon was opened by this deponent and his mate, Leverett Stevens, *twice*, during the paſſage, and that it contained a ſoldier's regimental coat, a great coat, ſeveral jackets and trowſers, and a few other things, *none of which the ſaid John Wilſon wore during his illneſs.* And this deponent further ſaith, that during the paſſage from Saint Pierre's to New-York, and from New-York to New-Haven, the whole of the perſons on board enjoyed good health, and no fever or other diſtemper prevailed among them:

And

And this deponent further ſaith, that after his arrival with a healthy crew at New Haven, Elijah Auſtin, the perſon in whoſe employ the deponent ſailed, was preſent when this deponent opened the cheſt containing the effects of the ſaid John Wilſon, in a certain ſtore where they had been carried from the veſſel ſeveral days before; and that the ſaid Elijah Auſtin *before* the opening of the ſaid cheſt, and *before* his departure for the city of New York, to which he was then about to go, complained of a head-ache, and ſaid he muſt proceed nevertheleſs to New York. And further this deponent ſaith not.

DANIEL TRUEMAN.

The foregoing depoſition was ſworn to before me this 16th of November, 1798.

GABRIEL FURMAN, *Alderman.*

But as direct contradictions to the aſſertions contained in the above depoſitions, the following affidavits ſhould be peruſed with attention, as they carry with them the weight of reſpectable teſtimony, and have not been, as far as we know, controverted. The firſt is from colonel William Lyon, the caſhier of the New Haven bank, and a gentleman againſt whom no one will prefer the ſmalleſt objection.

New Haven, Sept. 27, 1803.

I, William Lyon, of ſaid New Haven, declare and teſtify, that A. D. 1794, and ſoon after the melancholy death of Elijah Auſtin, formerly of this city, merchant, Henry Daggett and Abraham Biſhop, Esqrs. and myſelf were appointed appraiſers of the eſtate of the deceaſed, and having opened his ſtore on Union wharf, which had been ſhut from the time of his death, I ſaw a certain cheſt in the garret, which I was told was lately owned by John Wilſon, a ſeaman in the ſaid Auſtin's veſſel, Daniel Truman, maſter, (this Wilſon died at Martinique with the plague or Yellow Fever the laſt voyage of ſaid veſſel) and that his clothes were ſhut up in the ſaid cheſt.

Several perſons mentioned to me their fears of infection from the cheſt, and requeſted me to make a motion at the next court of common council that the cheſt might be removed or deſtroyed. About this time I was at the ſhop of Samuel Cleveland, a joiner; he expreſſed his fears. His ſon, Ralph Cleveland, a boy of 12 or 14 years of age, being at work in the ſhop informed me that he was with Mr. Truman this voyage, *had the fever himſelf in the ſame room with Wilſon*, was preſent when Wilſon died, and that John Brandigan, another ſeaman belonging

belonging to the ſame veſſel, *took a blanket and ſome other clothes from the corpſe and carried them on board the veſſel, and put them in Wilſon's chest*, where he, the ſaid Ralph, often ſaw them.

A court of common council was held on that or the ſucceeding day, after my converſation with Cleveland, when I mentioned the complaints I had heard, and made a motion that ſome order might be taken thereon. The court appointed Henry Daggett, and Nathan Beers, Eſq. with myſelf, a committee, to overſee the removal and deſtruction of the cheſt. I procured *Leverett Stevens*, who had been mate of the veſſel the laſt voyage, and William Bayley, to deſtroy the cheſt. They removed it by water, to the Oyſter-point fields, in this city, and there *in full view of the committee*, broke open the cheſt, took out the contents *with a pole*, which were *an old dirty blanket*, a military coat, a *pair of dirty trowſers*, and ſome *other old clothes*, which were all burnt to aſhes.

WILLIAM LYON.

New Haven County, ſſ.

New Haven, Sept. 30, *A. D.* 1803.

Perſonally appeared William Lyon, and made oath that the within depoſition by him ſubſcribed, was the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Sworn before me,

JOSEPH DARLING, Jus. Pacis.

We

We now ſubjoin the affidavit of Dr. Hotchkiſs, a gentleman of ſtrict integrity, and unimpeachable on the ſcore of veracity.

I Obadiah Hotchkiſs, jun. of New Haven, in New Haven county, of lawful age, do teſtify and ſay, that Daniel Truman, maſter of the ſloop Iris, from the Weſt-Indies, early in the month of June, 1794, in converſation, told me that while in the Weſt-Indies, *all his men* had the Yellow Fever, that John Wilſon was carried on ſhore, attended by a phyſician, and died; the remainder of his men he gave an emetic, and they all recovered. I further teſtify that *Leverett Stevens*, mate of the aforeſaid ſloop, to the beſt of my recollection the evening before the converſation with captain Truman, told me, that *himſelf* and *all the hands had the Yellow Fever* in the Weſt-Indies, that John Wilſon died, and further ſtated that *he* was cured by taking drinks that produced a copious ſweat.

OBADIAH HOTCHKISS.

New Haven, 30*th Sept.* 1803.

New Haven County, ſſ.

New Haven, Sept. 30*th*, 1803.

Perſonally appeared Obadiah Hotchkiſs, jun. and made oath that the above and foregoing depoſition, by him ſubſcribed, was the truth, and nothing but the truth.

Sworn before me,

JOSEPH DARLING, Jus. Pacis.

To

To theſe we add the declaration of Mr. Ives, received from Dr. Munſon in a former letter, and to which he informs us Mr. Ives is ready to depoſe, but obſerves, that Mr. Ives's word will never be diſputed where he is known. The following is his ſtatement under his own hand.

" I was requeſted by the faculty of this town to inquire into the particulars reſpecting capt. Truman's veſſel, particularly with regard to the clothing which was in the cheſt of John Wilſon, a mariner, who died in the Weſt-Indies of the Yellow Fever. The facts I obtained were from Leverett Stevens, mate of the veſſel. Stevens ſaid that *the blanket which Wilſon uſed when he was ſick, and the clothes in which he died, he put into the chest*, and *locked it*, and that it was *not opened* until it was opened in Auſtin's ſtore, in New Haven.

LEVI IVES.

The reader is now in poſſeſſion of the counter teſtimony we have to produce. Dr. Munſon obſerves, in the concluſion of his letter, incloſing the depoſitions, " many ſtrong corroborating circumſtances might have been added, but my profeſſional engagements are ſuch at this juncture, as to prevent further reſearches, and ſome people who could teſtify in point are abroad." But more is unneceſſary; until the teſtimony of the above gentlemen can be ſhaken, and their characters deſtroyed, which

which we feel warranted in saying never can be done, there can be but one opinion on this subject. We can have no scruple then to say, IT IS NOT TRUE—that "there was no blanket in the chest," for *Ralph Cleveland saw John Brandigan take Wilson's "blanket and carry it on board the vessel, and put it in Wilson's chest,"* and Col. Lyon saw Leverett Stevens himself, and William Bayley, *take out of the chest, by means of a pole, an old dirty blanket, and burn it*—and finally, this Leverett Stevens told Mr. Ives, that the "*blanket which Wilson used when he was sick, he put into his chest and locked it.* IT IS NOT TRUE—that "Wilson was buried with his infected clothes on," for Ralph Clevelandsaw the *clothes from the corpse* carried on board the vessel and put in the chest, and Stevens told Mr. Ives, expressly, that he put *the clothes, in which Wilson died, into his chest.* IT IS NOT TRUE—that *the sloop had never any infected persons on board*, for Ralph Cleveland told Col. Lyon, that he himself had the fever; but more particularly Capt. Truman told Dr. Hotchkiss, that "while in the West-Indies, *all his men had the Yellow Fever*, and Leverett Stevens told him that he "*himself, and all the hands, had the Yellow Fever in* "*the West-Indies.*" IT IS NOT TRUE—that "the chest contained only a new coat and new jackets and trowsers, which had never been worn," for Ralph Cleveland saw "*other clothes*," besides the blanket, *taken off the corpse by John Brandigan*, and *put into the chest*, and Stevensand Bayley took out of the chest with

with a pole, a *pair of dirty trowſers*, and *ſome other old clothes*, and *burnt them*. Laſtly, IT IS NOT TRUE—that " the cheſt, with its contents, were burnt *unexamined*, for, *in full view of the committee* [appointed by the court, and conſiſting of Henry Daggett, Nathan Beers and William Lyon, Eſqrs.] *the chest was broken open, and the contents expoſed before they were burnt, conſisting of an old dirty blanket, a military coat, a pair of dirty trowſers, and ſome other old clothes.*" Finally, of all the allegations made by thoſe who have engaged to inveſtigate this affair, for the purpoſe of diſproving the original ſtatement made in 1796, NOT ONE SINGLE MATERIAL FACT IS TRUE. Thus we finiſh with the year 1794, at New Haven.

We are not diſpoſed to preſs this ſubject very hard, nor is it our intention to mark out any one as guilty of ſubornation in procuring the two unhappy men to forſwear themſelves, but we cannot, in duty, refrain from making a ſhort appeal to our fellow citizens on this ſtatement of facts. What will they think of thoſe who to ſupport a ſyſtem, pregnant with nothing but miſchief, will go to ſuch unheard-of, ſuch unſuſpected, ſuch criminal lengths? And will it not inſpire a juſt and ſalutary caution, how they implicitly receive the intereſted evidence of captains of veſſels which have introduced peſtilence and death among us.

Letter

Letter from Dr. James Stratton, to Dr. S. P. Griffitts.

Swedeſborough, Dec. 31ſt, 1805.

DEAR SIR,

Your favour of the 10th inſtant, came duly to hand. In attempting an anſwer thereto, it may not be improper to ſtate thoſe facts relative to the Yellow Fever, which have come within my knowledge, in the different years, in which that diſeaſe has appeared in the city of Philadelphia. In doing this it will not be neceſſary to detail the particular ſymptoms, ſo much as the circumſtances of its appearance—the ſituation of the places as it reſpects tide water, and the inſtances of its ſpreading.

In the year 1793, three caſes only occurred within my notice, theſe were perſons who had left the city; two of the caſes proved fatal, but without any inſtance of its being communicated. In the year 1797, I ſaw ſeven caſes, all theſe were inhabitants of this neighbourhood, five of them had been to Philadelphia; of theſe, four died: two caſes of the diſeaſe being communicated, one died with all the diſtinguiſhing ſymptoms which accompany the moſt unfavourable caſes, the other recovered. The firſt of the caſes communicated, Thomas Humphries, was

was on tide-water; the other had been nurſe to one who had died, at the diſtance of two or three miles from any tide.

The caſe of Thomas Humphries may, perhaps, merit a more particular detail. Peter Duffield, a waterman, had been to Philadelphia, and brought from thence a quantity of oakum, for graving his veſſel. Thomas Humphries, and Charles Lack, carpenters, went to work on board the veſſel; Duffield and Humphries ſlept on board: they were both taken ill on the 18th day of September. Duffield died on the 21ſt; Humphries died on the 22d of the ſame month. Duffield had been to the city, Humphries had not;—they were both employed in handling the ſame oakum, and perhaps received the infection from the ſame fomites.

In the year 1798, forty-two caſes came within my notice. Of theſe, nineteen died; they were ſcattered over the country in different ſituations. Of theſe patients, ſome had removed from Philadelphia; others had been there on buſineſs; others again had removed from Wilmington, Delaware; and about fifteen of them had not been to either place. Of theſe latter, ſome, both of thoſe that died, and of thoſe who ſurvived, exhibited the ſymptoms which are characteriſtic of the diſeaſe. As it would be difficult as well as tedious, to relate the

circumſtances of all thoſe caſes where the diſeaſe might be ſuppoſed to have been communicated, from one perſon to another, or from the clothing of one perſon to another, I will mention only one caſe: Miſs Sally Harding fled from Wilmington to the houſe of her uncle, captain William Peterſon, at a place called the Cove, on the Jerſey ſhore, a mile or two above the mouth of Chriſtiana Creek. About a week after leaving Wilmington, ſhe was attacked with the Yellow Fever, but recovered; her uncle, Mr. Peterſon, took the diſeaſe, was very ill; he alſo recovered; her nurſe took the diſeaſe and died. Mr. Miller, a ſtudent in medicine, viſited Miſs Harding; he took the diſeaſe and died.

In the year 1799, nine caſes occurred within my notice; ſeven died, two recovered. Of the nine caſes, ſix were communicated. Some of theſe patients were at Carpenter's bridge, on Mantua Creek, and ſome on Oldman's Creek. The caſes which occurred in the family of Mr. Joſeph Stout, on Oldman's Creek, in the county of Salem, may perhaps be worth relating. A young man of his family, who followed the buſineſs of a ſhallop-man, from that Creek to Philadelphia, came home ſick of the Yellow Fever, and died about the ſixth day, in a ſtate of extreme putrefaction; his fingers, toes, and ears were black for two days previous to his death; he diſcharged a black fluid from his ſtomach, with

with a force ſufficient to carry it horizontally acroſs a room. This man had been nurſed by Mrs. Stout and her daughter, a young woman, who, about a week after his death, were attacked with the ſame ſymptoms, and both died on the ſixth day. Several other perſons in the ſame family were taken ill, but recovered. Mr. Stout's houſe is on the bank of the Creek, half a mile from any other dwelling.

There have been but a few caſes in this part of the country ſince the year 1799, until the fall of the preſent year. The moſt of theſe were at Carpenter's bridge, on Mantua Creek, where there is a ſcattered village. The diſeaſe was introduced into this village by three men who were inhabitants thereof, and went to Philadelphia on buſineſs; and while there, doubting the exiſtence of the diſeaſe, or its power to injure them, after charging themſelves with ſpirituous liquor, wantonly went in ſearch of the diſeaſe, into Southwark, and found ſome of its victims, and aſſiſted in putting them in their coffins. They returned home and boaſted of their proweſs; about a week afterwards they were all taken ill, and all died about the ſixth day. From theſe, the diſeaſe was communicated to a number of others; of whom I viſited four perſons; two died.

From

From the facts which have been ſtated, it may be obſerved, that the Yellow Fever has never appeared in this part of the country, except in thoſe ſeaſons, and when it had previouſly exiſted in Philadelphia; that there have been many inſtances of its being brought from Philadelphia to Jerſey, and of its being communicated from the perſons thus infected, to others. If the diſeaſe may be brought from Philadelphia into New Jerſey, I ſee no difficulty in ſuppoſing it may be brought from ſome other place to Philadelphia.

This communication has been deferred by the preſſure of buſineſs; but you will make proper allowance for circumſtances of this kind, and may make ſuch uſe thereof as you may think proper.

With ſincere regard,
I am, dear Sir, your friend
and very humble ſervant,

JAMES STRATTON.

DR. S. P. GRIFFITTS.

An

Letter from Dr. John Stuart, of the iſland of Grenada, to Dr. David Hoſack.

New York, Nov. 12, 1805.

Dear Sir,

I have received your favour of this date, deſiring information concerning the Fever which appeared, and proved ſo fatal, in Grenada, in March, 1793; I feel much diſpoſed to comply with your requeſt, but regret that my time will not allow me to do ſo in a manner ſatisfactory to myſelf; at all events, I hope you will make allowance for any inaccuracy I may commit, in referring to circumſtances which took place ſo long as twelve years ago, eſpecially as I am poſſeſſed of no memorandum reſpecting the diſeaſe, all my papers having been deſtroyed in the inſurrection which occurred in that iſland, in 1795.

It may be neceſſary to premiſe, that I had been engaged in an extenſive practice in the quarters of St. Andrew's and St. Patrick's, for 19 years previous to the period referred to. My place of reſidence was on the eaſt ſide of the iſland, and on the confines of thoſe two pariſhes, about 24 miles from St. George, the capital, and upwards of four miles from Grenville bay, the ſecond harbour in the colony.

The

The tract of country between my abode and the latter is flat, and the ſhore low and ſwampy; it is conſequently extremely unhealthy in the fall of the year; I had become, of courſe, well acquainted with tertian fever, under its various forms of intermittent, remittent, and continued types. It is however worthy of remark, that I do not recollect an inſtance of an epidemic occurring among the white inhabitants in any part of the iſland, from January to July or Auguſt, previous to the year 1793.

My firſt acquaintance with the Fever in queſtion was as follows: In the month of March of that year, I went one day on board the ſhip Adventure, then lying in Grenville harbour, to viſit the carpenter, at that time under my charge, for a gun-ſhot wound in his hand. While there, captain Remington arrived from St. George's by ſea: he had come round in a drogher, and had had heavy ſqualls, with rain, in his paſſage to windward. He then complained of being feveriſh, and ſeemed low-ſpirited;—he had heat of ſkin, his pulſe full and under 100, head-ache, pain in his back and limbs, and over his whole body; theſe ſymptoms I imputed to cold caught in his paſſage up, and accordingly took eight ounces of blood from him, which, unexpectedly, neither exhibited the buffy coat, nor the coagulum any degree of contraction, nor conſequent ſeparation of

ſerum.

ſerum. He took an emetic of Ipecacuanha in the evening, and a doſe of Glauber's ſalts the following morning. During three days I continued to viſit him, his pulſe did not exceed 100, nor was the heat of ſkin conſiderable; he took occaſionally ſmall doſes of antimonial wine, with the addition of laudanum at bed-time, and made free uſe of tepid drinks. At the end of that time I was under the neceſſity of putting him in charge of a neighbouring practitioner, having a call to the other ſide of the iſland. On leaving him I certainly did not entertain any idea of his being in danger; I was, however, forcibly ſtruck with, and could not well account for, an uncommon degree of deſpondency of mind, that was then preſent, and it was not poſſible to remove the impreſſion that he was to die; nor was I the leſs ſurpriſed, on going to Grenville a few days thereafter, to be told of his death, and more eſpecially to hear of that event having been preceded by hæmorrhage from his noſe, ſtomach, mouth, and urinary bladder. On this occaſion, while in converſation with ſome gentlemen on the fate of this unfortunate man, I could not help noticing the malignancy of the caſe, and the difference in the train of ſymptoms from what I had ever witneſſed to take place in the worſt caſe of our endemic fever. But a few minutes had elapſed when a gentleman arrived from St. George's; I had no ſooner mentioned capt. R.'s death to him, and my ſurpriſe thereat, when he inſtantly replied, it was known

known to him, for that capt. R. had eat and ſlept on board the ſhip Hankey, during ſeveral days that he was in town. This was the firſt notice I had of ſuch a veſſel being in the colony, and therefore anxiouſly requeſted he would explain himſelf: this he did by ſaying, that the Hankey, capt. Cox, had arrived ſome time before, after carrying a number of ſettlers from England to the coaſt of Africa, where ſhe had remained for ſome months; and that during her ſtay the greater part of thoſe unfortunate people had been carried off by fever; and concluded by ſaying, that there was at that time a curſed infection lurking on board of her; that the mate of the ſhip Baillies had died or was dying, and ſeveral other ſeamen were very ill, when he left town. The melancholy ſcene that afterwards followed at St. George's, in 1793 and 1794, is well and amply deſcribed by my reſpectable friend Dr. Chiſholm, in his well-known work on Weſt India diſeaſes.

As to the *character* of this fever, my experience has fully ſatisfied me, that it was ſpecifically diſtinct from every form of the indigenous, bilious remittent, which I had ever obſerved. *Becauſe* it appeared at a ſeaſon of the year which I had always found healthy during a period of twelve years I had reſided in the colony. *Becauſe* it did not particularly appear in thoſe ſituations where bilious remittent

remittent fever uſually prevailed during the unhealthy ſeaſon of the year. *Becauſe* there was an evident difference in the character and type of the two diſeaſes; there was a greater deſpondency of mind in this fever, the eyes were more muddy and inflamed, there was commonly a deep-ſeated pain in the eye-ſockets, the motion of the eye-balls was attended with uneaſineſs; the pain in the back and limbs was greater than in bilious fever; the vomiting was not of ſo violent and ſtraining a nature, nor were there ſuch evacuations of bilious matter. The black vomit * generally occurred at an early period; the yellowneſs was of a dingy hue, not of the real icteric tinge accompanying caſes of bilious fever. The delirium was, in many inſtances, of a peculiar nature, and much reſembling a ſtate of intoxication; hæmorrhage was more frequent, particularly by urine and from the ſtomach and inteſtines. Patients on ſeveral occaſions made exertions not long before death that I *never* witneſſed in bilious fever. I have known a patient get up, dreſs himſelf, and walk about his chamber, a very ſhort time before his death. Medical practitioners, before being well acquainted with the deceitful nature of the diſeaſe, not unfrequently declared their patients out of danger,

* Which I conſider as one of the characteriſtics of this diſeaſe.

ger, when the fatal iſſue took place an hour or two after their departure. *Becauſe* I never knew this fever terminate within a few weeks in intermittent, as tertian, remittent or bilious fever commonly does. *Becauſe* the degree of weakneſs produced by the fever is greater, and the recovery of fleſh and ſtrength more gradual and ſlow in this than in bilious fever. *Becauſe* I did not find the ſame mode of treatment ſucceſsful in both caſes of fever; for the early and bold and free uſe of bark, which I have found very generally to anſwer in bilious fever, ſeemed to aggravate this fever and to haſten the fatal iſſue.

That this fever was contagious I concluded from the manner in which it broke out and ſpread. It firſt appeared in two or three veſſels that had a communication with the Hankey, and from thoſe ſources it gradually extended itſelf to other veſſels in the harbour; but not to all; for, where attention was paid to prohibit communication with infected ſhips, ſuch veſſels eſcaped. After ſome time it got on ſhore, both into town and in the garriſon. There is alſo reaſon to think that it was carried from thence to the adjoining iſlands, as it appeared at moſt of thoſe to windward within two months of its breaking out at Grenada; and ſome time thereafter, it ſhewed itſelf at Jamaica, and ultimately I believe in September at Philadelphia.

Its

Its contagious nature alſo appeared *from* many inſtances of men in 1793 and 1794 going to St. George's on buſineſs, and being attacked a few days after their return to the country with this fever, to ſeveral of whom it proved fatal; but I muſt obſerve that I met with no inſtance in the country, of the diſeaſe being communicated to others, either viſitors or attendants. It is indeed true that every attention was paid to keep the chamber of the ſick well aired; their linen frequently ſhifted; and when a fatal iſſue took place, every article of wearing apparel and bedding was commonly deſtroyed.

From knowing ſeveral inſtances of young men who got wounded in 1795 and 1796, having been ſent for convenience and proper attendance to town, who during their cure were attacked by this cruel diſeaſe, and on ſome occaſions fell a ſacrifice thereto.

From inſtances occurring of people expreſſing a conſciouſneſs of the time when they received the contagion, while viſiting acquaintances labouring under the diſeaſe.

From a thorough belief in the minds of all the medical gentlemen in Grenada, who witneſſed the diſeaſe, that it was ſo: let it be obſerved, however, that one of the moſt reſpectable practitioners in St. George's, and a particular acquaintance of my own, would not allow at *firſt*, that it was contagious.

And

And laſtly, *from* a full conviction that I, as well as ſome other medical gentlemen, contracted the diſeaſe in our attendance on the ſick.

Reſpecting the propagation of this fever, I am decidedly of opinion that it was occaſioned by viſiting infected apartments, or by the near approach to, or contact with people labouring under it. There is every probability alſo that the infection was brought to Grenada by the Hankey; * but what its nature was, whether it originated on board in conſequence of the number of ſick crowded together, while labouring under the endemic of a warm climate, and that in a ſultry, moiſt atmoſphere, is a queſtion I do not take upon myſelf to anſwer.

That vegetable and animal matter in a ſtate of putrefaction does produce diſeaſe, is not to be denied; but that vegetable matter only in a ſtate of corruption is on many occaſions harmleſs, is evident, from the offenſive heaps of cotton ſeed, and the pulpy covering of the coffee berry which are daily to be met with in Demarara, without being conſidered as a cauſe of fever; nor ſhould this circumſtance be omitted, that when fever does prevail, it is at a ſeaſon when thoſe cauſes do not act powerfully.

Yours, &c.

JOHN STEWART.

DR. DAVID HOSACK.

* It is important to note here, that when the Hankey returned to Great Britain, she was immediately ordered by the Board of Health to be burnt.

An account of the riſe and progreſs of the Fever, which prevailed in Southwark, during part of the Summer and Autumn of the preſent year, 1805. *By Doctor* WILLIAM CURRIE.

The Yellow Fever made its firſt appearance this year, in the family of Samuel Criſman, who kept a retail grocery ſtore at the north-eaſt corner of Catharine and Water ſtreets, in the diſtrict of Southwark, about midway between the New Market and the Swedes-church, a ſituation remarkably clean, open and airy.

A young man, by the name of Peter Young, and two boys, the one twelve, and the other ſixteen years of age, in the ſervice of Samuel Criſman, were the firſt that were attacked by the diſeaſe.

Peter Young was attacked with very violent feveriſh ſymptoms, on Saturday the 27th of July, ſoon after breakfaſt, while at work in a covered ſhop adjoining his employer's houſe; and the two boys the day following, one of them while on his way to his parents in the Northern Liberties.

The youngeſt boy, whoſe name is Tobias Smith, informed John North's ſon, who reſided on the wharf back of Criſman's, the Sunday before he was taken

taken ill, that he had been down to the Lazaretto a few days before; this, Mr. North's ſon ſtated in the preſence of Mrs. Rees and the ſubſcriber, and has ſince qualified to the fact.

Peter Young alſo acknowledged, in the preſence of Ebenezer Ferguſon, Eſq. preſident of the board of health, Mr. George Budd, and Doctor Reynolds, on his death-bed, (when his mind was in a ſituation which could admit no intereſt or paſſion to interfere with truth,) that he had made a viſit to the quarantine ſtation, the Sunday before he was taken ill.

In confirmation of this, Samuel Criſman has ſtated to Mr. Ferguſon and the ſubſcriber, more than once, that, the Sunday before Peter Young was attacked with the Fever, he told him, he had procured a boat to go to the Lazaretto to ſee his brother, and that he diſſuaded him from going, as he did not believe his brother was come.—"Peter Young and the boy, however, he believes, did go down the river, but returned home about ſunſet." Criſman alſo ſtates, that Peter Young and more than twenty other perſons, went with him down the river, to Thompſon's point, on the Jerſey ſhore, below the Lazaretto, the Sunday before he and the boy went down; but ſolemnly declares, that

that none of them went near any veſſel under quarantine that day.

Mr. Criſman and the widow of Peter Young alſo ſtate, that the ſaid Young and the youngeſt boy, had both engaged to go with capt. Wickam, in the brig Ceres, to St. Jago de Cuba, a ſhort time before they were taken ſick, and were to have ſailed the Sunday the boys were taken ill. According to Criſman's account, a few days before the ſickneſs occurred in his houſe, three perſons who had deſerted from one of the infected veſſels at the Lazaretto, arrived at Catharine ſtreet wharf, with a boat which they had ſtolen from a ſhallop, which lay a ſhort diſtance from the veſſel; and that while he went with the owner of the boat to take out a warrant to apprehend them, they put a cheſt on board an oyſter-boat, and made their eſcape.

It is probable, from reference to the letters of the Lazaretto phyſician, that the perſons mentioned by Mr. Criſman belonged to the brig Ann Jane, from New Orleans, as they deſerted about the 24th; and though immediately advertiſed, and a reward offered by the board of health, as well as by the mayor of New York, for apprehending them, they were never detected.

John

John North, who kept tavern back of Criſman's on Catharine ſtreet wharf, informed the writer of this account, "that a man by the name of John Davis, from Indian River, arrived at Catharine ſtreet wharf very ill, five or ſix days before the ſickneſs commenced at Criſman's; that during his illneſs, not expecting it was of a dangerous nature, he permitted him to lodge at his houſe; but finding him become very ill, with a pain in his ſide and fever, he obtained an order from the guardians of the poor to ſend him to the Bettering-houſe; to which, he was taken two days before the removal of the ſick perſons from Criſman's, and there died in a few days." He was opened, and a large abſceſs diſcovered in his liver; but none of the appearances uſually obſerved in perſons that have died of the Yellow Fever, excepting yellowneſs of his ſkin and eyes.

A quantity of putrid oyſters had been thrown upon the north ſide of Catharine ſtreet wharf, a little way below North's front door, about ten days before the three perſons at Criſman's were taken ill; but were put on board of the ſloop Independence, with a quantity of dry ſhells collected for the purpoſe, and ſent to Richmond in Virginia, on the 30th of July, the ſame day that the ſick perſons were ſent from Criſman's to the Lazaretto. The maſter and crew were well at the time of their leaving Catharine ſtreet wharf, and, according to a certificate

tificate in poſſeſſion of the ſubſcriber, ſigned by Mr. John Summers of this city, owner of the ſloop; they have remained in perfect health ever ſince.

At the time Peter Young and Tobias Smith went to the Lazaretto, ſeveral veſſels from different ports of the Weſt-India iſlands, particularly from Havanna, Point Petre, Cape Francois, and St. Thomas's were performing quarantine there, on account of having had ſickneſs and deaths by the Yellow Fever on board; and among others, the ſchooner Nancy, William Lake, maſter, from the city of St. Domingo, with wounded French officers and ſoldiers, which had been put on board from a military hoſpital: ſoon after which, the whole of the crew, excepting two, had been taken ill with the Yellow Fever; one died at ſea after three days ſickneſs, and the captain and one of the ſeamen were landed at the Lazaretto, dangerouſly ill, on the 12th of July, according to the bill of inquiry, and an extract from the logbook of the veſſel.

As ſoon as the board of health received intelligence of the ſituation of Criſman's family, which was on the 30th of July, they immediately ſent the ſick perſons to the Lazaretto, where Peter Young, who became extremely yellow, and had conſtant hæmorrhages from his noſe and mouth, and other ſymptoms of malignity, died on the 3d of Auguſt.

The two boys, one of whom had remained at his father's, recovered.

The day after the removal of the ſick perſons from Criſman's, he retired to the country with his family; and his houſe was cleaned and ventilated.

From Saturday the 27th of July, the day Peter Young was attacked with the Yellow Fever, no other caſe of Fever occurred in that neighbourhood, or in any other part of Southwark, excepting the two boys reſiding in the ſame houſe, that were taken ill the day after him, until Friday, the 2d of Auguſt, and then Mrs. Skillinger, (who lived next door to Criſman's and who had been preſent when the ſick perſons, with their beds, were taken to the boat,) was the next perſon attacked with the diſeaſe; Mrs. Ellis, who lived in the houſe adjoining Mrs. Skillinger's, and had long been in an infirm ſtate of health, was taken ill on the 4th, and died on the 7th of Auguſt.

Mr. Caleb Bickham's wife, who lived in the houſe adjoining Mrs. Ellis's, and her daughter, Mrs. Henry, were taken with the Fever in a milder form, about the ſame time with, or very ſoon after, Mrs. Ellis. Mr. Bickham's ſon Caleb, was attacked with great violence on the 9th, and died with ſymptoms of great malignity, on the 17th. During

ing the illneſs of young Mr. Bickham, a young woman who lived in the ſame houſe, had an attack of the Fever, but was confined to bed only a few hours.

Samuel Criſinan, who had returned to his houſe with his family, and a young man whom he had hired in the Northern Liberties, on the 5th of Auguſt, was attacked with the Fever on the 8th; the young man on the 9th; and Mrs. Criſman, after returning from her mother's funeral in the country, on the 13th. The latter died with the black vomit on the 18th. Criſman and the young man recovered, though Criſman had a ſevere relapſe.

Chriſtiana Kuchman, who had not been a year from Germany, and reſided on the eaſt ſide of Front, a few doors below Almond ſtreet, was attacked with the Fever the ſame day as young Mr. Bickham; and her huſband, who had returned from a fatiguing journey the day before ſhe was taken ill, was attacked with violent ſymptoms on the 12th. He died on the 16th, and ſhe on the 18th.

Daniel Kelley, a ſtevedore, in an alley, a ſhort diſtance above Criſman's, near the water, was attacked on the 12th, and died on the 20th. Two of Mrs. Skillinger's daughters were alſo taken ſick ſoon after her recovery.

No

No other caſe of fever occurred in that neighbourhood, from the time of the attack of the perſons laſt mentioned, till the 15th; when the following perſons were attacked, viz. Mrs. Goe's niece, who lived in the ſame houſe with Mrs. Ellis, and next door to Mr. Bickham's; Thomas Eldridge, a journeyman ſhip-carpenter, who lodged at North's tavern, on Catharine ſtreet wharf; Mrs. Calagan, in an alley a little way above Criſman's, on the oppoſite ſide of the ſtreet; and Nancy Hog, at Mr. Robinſon's, in Catharine, near Water ſtreet: and on the 17th, Mr. Robinſon's boy, Mr. Hozey's daughter, Jonathan Cogle's daughter, and Mrs. Rickart, all a ſhort diſtance below Criſman's.

Benjamin Thomas's family, who lived between Criſman's and the three laſt mentioned families, eſcaped the diſeaſe two weeks longer; after which they ſuffered ſeverely, ſix or ſeven having ſickened in ſucceſſion, and two died.

Mrs. Vanſant, who lived in an alley, in Chriſtian ſtreet, near Water ſtreet, was attacked on the 18th, and lived only two days. Thomas Mulford, who lived in Front, below Chriſtian ſtreet, but worked in a maſt-yard adjoining the alley where Kelley lay ill, was alſo attacked on the 18th; and Priſcilla French, immediately after moving from the neighbourhood

bourhood of Criſman's into Mary ſtreet, on the 19th.

Mrs. Maul, who lived two doors below Mr. Hozey's, was taken ill on the 22d; and a girl and boy in the ſame houſe, on the 28th.

Jane Fulmer, who lived near to, and had viſited Kuchman's wife, during her illneſs, was attacked on the 20th; and Mrs. Hay's little daughter in the ſame houſe, and Mr. Dow's ſon; a little bound girl, and a lodger named Nicholas Oke, in the houſe front of Fulmer's, on the 26th or 27th. From the 20th or 22d, the diſeaſe appeared again to make another pauſe, for five or ſix days, till a ſufficient time had elapſed for the contagion to operate on thoſe who had been expoſed to its influence—after which the number of freſh caſes became greater than before.

Six days after the attack of Mrs. Calagan, Mr. Gartley's little daughter, in the houſe front of Calagan's, and Hugh M'Guire's daughter, on the oppoſite ſide of the alley, which is very narrow, were attacked with the Fever; and ſeveral other perſons employed in M'Guire's family ſoon after, in ſucceſſion. Mr. Merrit's little ſon, and Mrs. Yoman, who reſided within two or three doors of Calagan's, were

were taken ill on the 28th. No perſon was attacked with the diſeaſe in Chriſtian ſtreet, for ſix or ſeven days after the death of Mrs. Vanſant; Mrs. Nail, and Mrs. Marſh's girl, who lived near her, were the next attacked in that neighbourhood; then Mr. Strembeck's daughter, next houſe to Nail's; and a few days later, the diſeaſe made its appearance in ſeveral other families in that neighbourhood.

In this manner, the diſeaſe proceeded in every neighbourhood where it gained admiſſion, the number of patients increaſing perceptibly every five or ſix days, and decreaſing in the intervals, at firſt with great regularity; but after it had made farther progreſs, and the number of patients had become numerous in different neighbourhoods, this regularity was not ſo obſervable.

From the preceding detail, which the ſubſcriber knows to be ſubſtantially correct, it appears evident, eſpecially when compared with the manner in which the diſeaſe commenced and proceeded in former years, that it was introduced into Southwark, the preſent year, by the perſons who firſt ſickened at Samuel Criſman's, and that thoſe perſons received the infection from ſome veſſel at the Lazaretto, which, from truſting to the care and vigilance of the people

people of the revenue boat, ſtationed there to prevent ſmuggling, had not been ſufficiently guarded by the inſpectors of the health office.

The confeſſion of the perſons firſt attacked with the diſeaſe, and the length of time that elapſed after their attack, before any other caſe of malignant fever occurred, and then their neareſt neighbours being the next that were attacked, not only renders it highly probable, but, in my opinion, eſtabliſhes the fact with abſolute certainty.

Itis alſo evident, from the dates of the ſubſequent caſes, that the diſeaſe was propagated in the ſame manner as diſeaſes univerſally acknowledged to be contagious are always propagated, and not like a diſeaſe derived from noxious effluvia diffuſed in the atmoſphere, to numbers in different directions at the ſame time; nor like a diſeaſe, occaſioned by foul air, proceeding from a particular ſource, which ceaſes to ſpread, and even to exiſt, in a few days after the ſource from which the foul air proceeds, has been removed or corrected.

If, therefore, the diſeaſe had originated from the exhalations of the putrid oyſters which had been thrown upon Catharine ſtreet wharf, and which were removed on the 30th of July, it would have

ceaſed

ceaſed from ſpreading, and even from exiſting, in a few days after the removal of the putrid oyſters, and not have continued its deſolating ravages for nearly three months.

The diſeaſe alſo differed materially in the violence of its ſymptoms, the period of its criſis, and in the manner of its termination, from any diſeaſe which has ever been known to originate from the impure air of a populous city, in any part of the world, or from the exhalations of the moſt foul and inſalubrious marſh.

The diſeaſe, as heretofore, was extinguiſhed immediately after the appearance of black froſt;—whereas caſes of bilious fever, are ſometimes obſerved to occur ſporadically till after the middle of winter, a circumſtance which, as obſerved by Dr. Bowen of Providence, proves that the Yellow fever and the bilious fever are not different grades of the ſame diſeaſe, as the lower grades would be earlier and more certainly extinguiſhed than the higher grades.

Several convincing proofs that the diſeaſe was propagated by contagion, in families who reſided in ſituations too remote to be affected by the impurity of the air of the neighbourhood where the diſeaſe made its firſt appearance, if any ſuch impurity exiſted,

exiſted, came under the notice of the ſubſcriber this year as well as every year that the diſeaſe has occurred in Philadelphia. The following are a few which occurred the preſent year.

Moſes Allen, a Pilot, from Port Penn, arrived at his daughter's, in Almond above Front ſtreet, about the middle of September, without ſtopping at any other houſe on his way. His wife was then dangerouſly ill with the Yellow Fever. He aſſiſted her in and out of bed; ſhe died on the ſecond day after his arrival. On the ſixth day after her deceaſe he was attacked with the fever and died in a few days.

A young man, apprentice to Capt. George, was taken ill with the Yellow Fever at Mrs. Biddle's in Front nearly oppoſite Union ſtreet, and was dangerouſly ill ſeveral days; was attended by Mrs. Biddle and her niece, and viſited without reſerve by ſeveral perſons boarding in the ſame houſe. In about a week after his recovery, which was protracted longer than uſual, Mrs. Biddle and her niece were attacked with the diſeaſe, and recovered with great difficulty; during their illneſs two of the lodgers alſo were attacked with the diſeaſe. Previouſly to the time Capt. George's apprentice became ill, no caſe of fever, excepting the wife of an oyſterman in a cellar ſeveral doors higher up, had occur-

than

red in that neighbourhood, nor any other for more than two weeks after, excepting one perſon in the adjoining houſe, in the ſervice of Mr. G. Latimer.

Mrs. Cheeſman, after nurſing Mr. Caſtle in Front near Shippen ſtreet, a neighbourhood where no other perſon at that time was ſick, returned to her houſe in Stamper's alley, was taken ill a few days after her return, and died with black vomit. She aſſured the ſubſcriber, when ſhe deſpaired of her recovery, that ſhe had ſeen no ſick perſon excepting Mr. Caſtle, for many weeks, and had been in no houſe where any ſick perſon had been, for ſeveral days before ſhe went to nurſe him.

Mrs. Derbyſhire, in Front between South and Lombard ſtreets, who attended a boy that was ill with the fever in the family, was taken ill herſelf, nine days after the recovery of the boy.

Mrs. Philips and her daughter Barbara, who lived in Water ſtreet between Almond and Catharine ſtreets, were taken ill with the fever on the 27th of Auguſt, and died on the 3d of September. Two of Mrs. Philips's married daughters and their huſbands, ſickened ſoon after in ſucceſſion. Two of theſe died ; and the huſband of one of them in a delirious paroxyſm, threw himſelf out of the window and was killed.

One

One of Mrs. Houſeman's daughters, and a young man who reſided in a clean airy houſe, in Second below Chriſtian ſtreet, entirely detached from every other houſe, were taken ill about the middle of September. Soon after their recovery, the mother and her other daughter, who had nurſed them, and who had not been in any other infected houſe from the time the two firſt were taken ill, were both attacked with the fever in leſs than a week after their recovery.

Mrs. Champneſs, in Pine ſtreet between Second and Third ſtreets, aſſured the ſubſcriber, when ſenſible that ſhe was paſt recovery, that ſhe had ſeen no perſon with any kind of diſeaſe for many weeks, and had not been in any part of Southwark; but had employed a young woman who had juſt left a family where ſome perſons had been ſick, to do ſome work for her, ſoon after which ſhe was taken ill.

Mrs. Champneſs died a day or two after giving this account, with decided ſymptoms of Yellow Fever.

WILLIAM CURRIE.

December 16th, 1805.

Publiſhed by order of the College,

WILLIAM SHIPPEN, *Preſident.*

Atteſt.

THOMAS T. HEWSON, *Secretary.*

January 7th, 1806.